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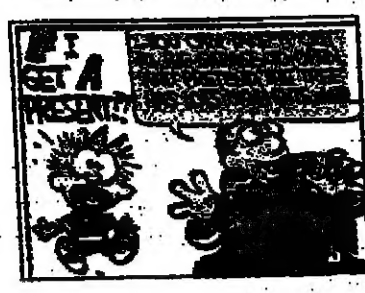
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## US threatens to attack if Iraq blocks palaces search

**By JONATHAN WRIGHT**  
WASHINGTON (Reuters) — The US said on Friday that Iraqi media tours of its presidential palaces showed "rank hypocrisy" and warned Baghdad that its last resort is a military strike if UN arms inspectors are barred from visiting these and other places.  
The tough US rhetoric followed what White House spokesman

Mike McCurry called a "very troubling" report from chief UN weapons inspector Richard Butler, who believes some banned arms were hidden in Iraq's so-called presidential sites.  
Iraq has prevented the UN Special Commission (UNSCOM) from checking the sites, provoking a crisis with the UN and the US. But it took reporters and Western television crews to some of the

sites on Friday in a bid to prove Butler's suspicions were groundless.  
"What's clear is that Iraq does not want UNSCOM to go to those sites to do its work, but it's willing to let reporters go there to visit what they claim to be sensitive and sovereign sites," said State Department spokesman James Foley.  
"I think it's a demonstration of

rank hypocrisy on Iraq's part... The Iraqi claims of sovereignty, prohibiting UN access to those sites, are hypocritical," Foley added.  
US Ambassador to the United Nations Bill Richardson, said Washington hoped diplomacy would persuade Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to open all suspected weapons sites. But it is leaving the door open to unilateral military action, he added.  
"We're being wise. We're being steady. Our policy has worked: diplomacy, negotiation first. And we haven't ruled out military action. That's our policy... We're going to continue that," Richardson said on the NBC Today program.  
McCurry said the US expected members of the UN Security Council to "listen very carefully to the evidence" presented by Butler. He said on Friday he suspected Iraq

was hiding some banned weapons at the "presidential sites," though not necessarily at those opened to the media.  
Butler's team pulled out of Iraq for a time last month in a dispute with Baghdad over the number of American members.  
If Iraq revived any dormant programs to develop weapons of mass destruction while the inspectors were absent or is trying to hide

arms that are outlawed under Gulf War cease-fire terms, that would be "a very grave matter," McCurry said.  
Richardson earlier dismissed the press visits to the presidential buildings as Iraqi propaganda.  
"They are playing games. Those are programmed tours. If they have nothing to fear, why don't they let the UN inspectors into those presidential sites?" he told CNN.

Communications minister to challenge Lieberman

### Livnat to run for World Likud head

**By MICHAEL YUDELMAN**  
Communications Minister Limor Livnat said Friday she will run for the position of World Likud chairman, in what is seen as a challenge to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who supports former Prime Minister's Office director-general Avigdor Lieberman.  
Tension is mounting in the Likud in anticipation of today's World Likud convention, which many fear will "explode" due to the deepening rivalry between the Netanyahu-Lieberman camp and a group of Likud veterans.  
Also contending for the chairmanship is Yossi Ben-Aharon, former director-general of prime minister Yitzhak Shamir's office.  
Some 300 delegates from Likud branches world-wide are to attend the convention and scheduled elections today at Likud headquarters, Metzuza, Ze'ev.  
Livnat's decision to contend came in reaction to Netanyahu's official letter of support for Lieberman, who is believed by some to be planning to push Livnat and other rivals of the prime minister out of important positions in the party.  
Livnat's chances are estimated to be good, as many of the Likud's world delegates share her hawkish political positions. For this reason incumbent World Likud chairman Ronni Milo, who has moderate stands, saw his chances of being reelected as slim, and he decided to step down.  
Livnat said she had reached her decision after many delegates from



**Paying homage**  
Hadeesh MK Azmi Bashara lays a wreath yesterday at the tomb of Islamic Jihad leader Fathi Shkaki at the Palestinian Martyrs Cemetery near Damascus. Bashara is visiting Damascus at the invitation of the Syrian government. (Reuters)

## PM to give Clinton pullback map in Jan.

**By JAY BUSHINSKY and HILLEL KUTTLER**  
Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is likely to meet with President Bill Clinton next month and show him the cabinet's decision on the precise limits of the IDF's next withdrawal in the West Bank, according to a senior official.  
Today's cabinet session will provide another opportunity to close the gaps between various ministers' assessments of the amount of territory Israel can afford to transfer to the  
Mordechai, and Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani.  
Israel Radio reported last night that cabinet secretary Dan Naveh heads a team that has been, over the past two weeks, drafting a document itemizing the PA's violations of the Hebron Accords. The document will be submitted for cabinet approval and then relayed to the PA.  
The linkage between further redeployment (FRD in the Oslo Accords lexicon) and security guarantees was the central theme of Netanyahu's talks in Paris last week with US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. This was reflected in the briefing Albright gave the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations upon her return to the US.  
Albright also reportedly told PA Chairman Yasser Arafat in London that unless he develops a credible plan for comprehensive, systematic security cooperation with Israel he could "forget about" an Israeli FRD. The secretary disclosed that she informed Arafat that he must produce a systematic approach to fighting terrorism.  
Netanyahu "did not budge" on the territorial issue, the official went on, nor did he make any commitments regarding land that might be handed over to the Palestinians.  
"Our security interests are such that it is very difficult for us to give up substantial pieces of land," he was quoted as saying.  
**See PULLBACK, Page 2**

## World Likud is new arena for internal party feud

A few weeks ago when the row over lists of delegates to the World Likud convention first came up and was brought before Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, he was reported to have protested furiously: "The World Likud? I should really be involved with that? You are dragging me there, too? Don't I have anything better to do?"

### COMMENT

**By SARAH HONIG**  
arena is the World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency. All Zionist parties in Israel have such international annexes to represent them in this

arena, as well as in student organizations, the teachers' union, etc.  
If the World Zionist Congress and World Likud convention were not in the offing, we probably would have continued to hear little about the World Likud.  
But the fact that we are hearing so much about it all of the sudden is significant. The Zionist Congress met in years past and the World

Likud still caused no eyelash to bat. The current furor there is a carry-over from the disarray of November's chaotic Likud convention. The Likud continues to feud.  
If the central home arena is ostensibly dormant just now, then the tireless warriors joust elsewhere.  
**See LIKUD, Page 2**

### 'Personal Post' to be electronic pioneer

**By JUDY SIEGEL**  
The Jerusalem Post will soon be the first newspaper in the world to use an innovative Israeli technology that turns electronic newspapers into a personalized edition delivered daily to the subscriber's computer in a user-friendly, newspaper format.  
The InfoPager system was developed by Zebra Pushware Solutions, a small Jerusalem company founded in May of last year. As the "Personal Post," it allows instant delivery of The Jerusalem Post anywhere an Internet provider is available. Readers interested in certain subjects can

save time by customizing their electronic paper to contain articles only in those fields. Single articles or the whole paper can easily be printed out. In addition, users can click advertisement icons, even when off-line, and view multimedia commercials.  
"For us, InfoPager is an extremely exciting opportunity, opening up new possibilities," said Zebra president and publisher Norman Spector. "All tests of the system have been very positive, and we know that the Personal Post edition is an excellent product. It will cost subscribers only 50 US cents a day, and we are offering a one-month free trial."  
Zebra founder and CEO Drew Tick said that Japanese and other foreign publishers of some of the 1,800 electronic newspapers around the world have shown much interest in the system, which will be translated into other languages.  
**See Science & Technology, Page 10**

## The Swedish vision of zero traffic deaths

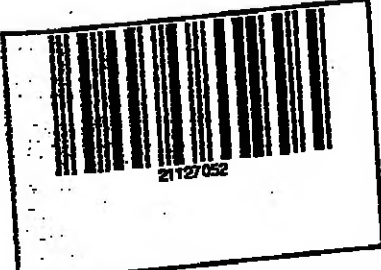
### IT'S NO ACCIDENT

**By Larry Dierfer**

they don't have steep embankments that send cars capsizing down the hill, they've put up fewer poles to crash into," he says. "Sweden put in a lot of effort in upgrading vehicle and road safety standards. The Swedish always

had an ergonomic approach to traffic safety. They don't use wonderful words like 'mentality' to explain road deaths, like we do."  
In the Australian state of Victoria, traffic deaths went down from about 800 to 400 in 1990.  
"They put in hundreds of speed cameras all over the place," Richter says, maintaining that cameras are cheaper and more effective than police officers at catching speeders.  
Laws requiring bicyclists to wear helmets have been adopted in New Jersey, Australia, England

and some Scandinavian countries, Richter continues.  
And while highway speed limits are still generally higher in Europe than in Israel, Richter says the new wave of European thinking favors bringing these limits down. Germany's Autobahn is a virtual race track, but iconoclastic German road safety experts are saying their country's annual traffic death toll of about 9,000 could be reduced to about 7,000 if drivers were forced to slow down, says Richter.  
**See ACCIDENTS, Page 4**



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## NEWS

in brief

### Four injured after car flips in stoning

Four people were injured yesterday, one of them seriously, when their car flipped over after stones were thrown at their vehicle, outside Hebron. In a separate incident, a border policeman in Hebron was lightly wounded in by a thrown stone, the army spokesman said. Meanwhile, shots were fired at IDF troops posted outside the Avraham Avinu Quarter in Hebron yesterday afternoon. The IDF Spokesman said no one was wounded in the attack and soldiers returned fire at a suspect who fled to H1, the area under Palestinian control. Hebron Jewish community spokesman Noam Aron said this was the third time shots had been fired into the Jewish neighborhood. Residents of Hebron and Kiryat Arba are to hold a one-day strike in their communities today and plan to demonstrate outside the Prime Minister's office against any further withdrawals from the territories. *Margot Dukkevitch*

### Yishai probes alleged exploitation of Palestinians

Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai has instructed his ministry to conduct an investigation into reports alleging that Palestinian laborers are being used by companies to pocket money illegally from the Employment Service. According to the reports, a number of Palestinians come to Israel to work through the Employment Service but then leave their jobs, allowing their employers to collect a fee from the service. Yishai ordered that from now on, work permits given to Palestinians must stipulate employment with one employer for at least 20 days. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

### Taxi drivers to strike this morning

The nation's taxi drivers are to strike from 8 a.m. to noon today to further protest against the government's decision to make taxi licenses more easily available. A representative of the independent drivers' union in the Hisaradit said cab drivers would disrupt traffic on the main arteries and at intersections in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, and Haifa. The action is to include deliberately driving slowly with the aim of bringing traffic to a halt, he said. *Tim*

### Maccabi heads arrive to meet on bridge disaster

Leaders of the Maccabi World Union arrived over the weekend to take part in an emergency meeting convened following a decision to indict certain individuals in connection with the bridge collapse at the opening of the Maccabiah Games in July. Four Australian athletes died as a result of the collapse. Maccabi World Union said in a statement that it had invited leaders of Maccabi Australia to hear the grievances and to present them with the action being taken following the bridge disaster. The meeting is taking place today and tomorrow at Kfar Maccabiah. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

### 'German soldier describes neo-Nazi offenses'

A former recruit claims to have seen regular extreme-rightist offenses in his German army unit, from shouting Hitler to shouting racist slogans, a newspaper reports today. According to the weekly *Bild* on Sonntag, Christian Krause said at least three non-commissioned officers were neo-Nazis during his service with the 313th Paratrooper Battalion training unit, based in Lower Saxony. Krause, the 21-year-old son of former transportation minister Guenter Krause, said the non-commissioned officers would toast "the Fuehrer" on holidays and greet each other with Nazi slogans such as "Sieg Heil," the newspaper reported. *AP*

### Protests against Orthodox in Pardess Hanna

Secular residents of a Pardess Hanna neighborhood protested yesterday against what they say is an attempt by religious leaders to make the area Orthodox. Dozens of secular Jews, who make up the majority of homeowners in the Neveh Rotem housing project, waved flags and banners protesting Orthodox encroachment. Religious residents in turn yelled at them, "Go back to Tel Aviv," *Jerusalem Post Staff*

# Cook slams Israel after talks with Arafat

By DOUGLAS DAVIS  
and news agencies

LONDON — British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook continued over the weekend a high-decibel campaign against Israel that had been mounted by senior Foreign Office officials earlier in the week. He expressed impatience that "so much difficulty had been created by unilateral gestures on the part of one side to the [peace] talks."

Speaking after a meeting with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat on Thursday, he said: "We are very anxious to see a restraint on future settlement developments and progress on a realistic further redeployment of Israeli troops."

In particular, Cook said, he and Arafat had explored whether Europe could play "a stronger role in getting both the seaport and the airport from Gaza into positive operation."

In contrast to his harsh tone directed at Israel, Cook adopted the warmest terms to describe his meeting with Arafat, which he characterized as a "very good, honest and open exchange of views."

During what Cook called their "friendly and close discussion," he said he had assured Arafat that the

peace process would be "one of the first priorities of the common foreign and security policy of the European Union" when Britain assumes the presidency of the 15-nation body on January 1. He noted that the current Israeli

government had inherited an obligation to fulfill the terms of the Oslo accord: "I very much hope that all members of that government will recognize the obligation they are under to enter into a significant and substantial

further redeployment of Israeli troops within the Palestine entity." Unless there was progress on the interim agreements, Cook said, "it is difficult to see how we can leap forward to final status talks."

Later, Arafat suggested that Israel and the Palestinians might sign a security cooperation agreement tomorrow and complained that Israel had still not implemented 34 commitments it had undertaken under the Oslo accord.

He said he expected Israel to implement its commitments "scrupulously and seriously... Up to now we are facing problems and we have a lot of grievances on unimplemented outstanding issues."

Arafat described his meeting with Prime Minister Tony Blair as "excellent" and said he had high hopes for the British presidency of the European Union.

Meanwhile, French Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine said on Friday that Europe and the United States might make a joint bid to revive the peace process.

"There is especially close cooperation between American leaders and some European leaders about the revival of the peace process, which is an urgent necessity," Vedrine told a news conference during a 54-nation security conference in Copenhagen.

"This is an exchange of information, an exchange of analysis," he said. "On this basis, it might be possible at some moment, which is not yet fixed, to make a common initiative."

## Beilin: EU worried about gap between Israel, PA

By JAY BUSHNICK

LUXEMBOURG — The European Union is concerned about the divergent views presented to it by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, according to MK Yossi Beilin, who conferred with EU leaders in the wake of Netanyahu's and Arafat's talks with them.

Luxembourg's Prime Minister, Jean-Claude Juncker, told Beilin the gap between the two leaders is "very wide."

Juncker is the current head of the EU, and his deputy expires at the end of this month after which it will be taken up by the United Kingdom.

Beilin was invited here by the EU to discuss the proposed confederation between Israel and the PA, which would create a Middle Eastern state of the Benelux countries.

During Netanyahu's last news conference with the two prime ministers, Juncker and Beilin, the EU's decision against accepting Netanyahu's candidacy for membership, a move that caused Netanyahu's disappointment and result in Arafat's

stated that Netanyahu's position was "very clear" and that he would be willing to accept the EU's decision. "The door is open," he said. "I will consider the decision."

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## El Al chooses Boeing over Airbus

By HAIM SHAPIRO

In a move which the company insisted was not motivated by political pressure from the US, the El Al board on Friday decided to accept a bid by Boeing to supply a new fleet of five medium-range aircraft.

### Turkey to buy Boeing jets, Page 6

"There was no pressure from the US. The discussion centered on the substance of the deal and the board's discussion was extended when we began receiving new offers from the two groups," El Al director-general Yoel Feldschub told Army Radio following the announcement of the decision.

The board had planned to make its decision on Thursday night, but after four hours of discussions, it was still divided. At that point, Boeing asked for a delay, on the grounds that Airbus had been given time to improve its bid, but the American company had not been.

When the board reconvened on Friday, Boeing had cut its price by 6 percent, bringing it more or less in line with the Airbus bid of \$170 million. Airbus said it could make no further reductions.

When the board finally voted, the choice was unanimous and the company insisted that the decision was made solely on economic criteria.

Under the Boeing deal, the planes are to be supplied in a leasing arrangement, with two aircraft to be delivered in the spring of 1999 and three more by the end of that year.

The leasing arrangement was less attractive than Airbus's offer of outright sale, but that was balanced by the fact that El Al, which has used only Boeing aircraft for over 30 years, would not have to invest in any re-equipment of tools to service the European aircraft.

Before the decision, some airline sources had expressed concern that a decision to continue to buy from Boeing, in apparent capitulation to American political pressure, would place the national airline in a weaker position in any further negotiations. This could be important in a few years, when El Al plans to buy additional, medium-size, aircraft of a type manufactured only by Airbus and Boeing.

However, local aviation sources said last night, the American pressure had been exaggerated out of proportion by the media.

Certainly, there had been none of the direct intervention such as that exerted by US President Bill Clinton only a month ago, when he personally asked the Saudis to choose Boeing for a much larger, \$3-billion acquisition for Air Saudia.



PM, Barak address Jewish journalists' forum

"No amount of pressure will help further the peace process," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu tells the Seventh International Conference of the Jewish Media in Jerusalem on Friday. He asked the journalists not to be guilty of "bending over backwards" to be unbiased, thereby failing to report or misreporting stories about Israel. Distortions, he said, include the lack of reporting on the Palestinians' continued violations of the Oslo agreements. Labor Party leader MK Ehud Barak told the conference in a separate session that if he were prime minister, "I would kill myself in a room with Albright and Clinton until an agreement between us was reached."

(Text: Amy Klein; Photo: Ariel Jermolinski)

## LIKUD

Continued from Page 1

Indeed the protagonists are all those who riveted our collective attention at the Tel Aviv fairgrounds, where the convention imbroglio occurred. What we see now is nothing less than an attempt to settle scores.

Obviously much unfinished business was left, despite Netanyahu's attempt to sweep the odious mess under the rug. Thus we again encounter the names of Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo, former director-general of the Prime Minister's Office Avigdor Lieberman, and Communications Minister Limor Livnat. Even the roles are similar.

Milo is on the way out, Lieberman is the powerful non-establishment knight tilting against the party's elite, and Limor Livnat is a rebel Likud princess.

Up until now, Milo was chairman of the World Likud. It's a job that was handed to him on a silver platter years ago, because no one paid it any attention. Now he is practically out of the Likud and Lieberman has decided to oust him altogether. Lieberman thus challenged Milo, causing him to back down. At that point Netanyahu strongly endorsed Lieberman.

Livnat entered the fray to challenge Lieberman only after Netanyahu's endorsement. This is significant. Netanyahu can't be accused of having interfered on Lieberman's behalf against her, because she was not yet in the race. But having entered after Netanyahu put his political weight behind Lieberman, her move becomes an undisguised act of outright rebellion against Netanyahu, even though Livnat sought to deny it yesterday.

Obviously on a personal level things are not back to normal between her and the prime minister. Her decision to take Lieberman on was greeted with a shock of disbelief in the Prime Minister's Office.

Interestingly enough, no one around Netanyahu has a clue as to which of the two even has the better chance of winning. The World Likud arena is foreign to all. It has delegates from abroad and a balance of power which no one can begin to figure out.

Lieberman might enjoy Netanyahu's backing, but Livnat is personable and hawkish enough to charm and appeal to the militancy of overseas Likudniks.

While no one in the local Likud arena can make any sound predictions about the international Likud forum, it is near consensus that if the exported local squabbles get out of hand in today's convention, the aftershocks — perhaps severe ones — will reverberate with a vengeance to the Likud's home turf.

## Arafat blasts Netanyahu's West Bank remarks

By MARGOT DUKKEVITCH  
and MOHAMMED NAJIB

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat yesterday blasted Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's remarks declaring that the West Bank is an integral part of the State of Israel, saying they are a flagrant violation of signed accords and jeopardize the peace process.

"I will not give up a grain of dirt in Jerusalem," said Arafat, shortly after his arrival in Gaza.

Netanyahu's communications director David Bar-Ilan contended that the prime minister's comments, made in an address to Jewish journalists from abroad, were misinterpreted.

"He declared that the West Bank was part of the Land of Israel," Bar-Ilan said.

PA Spokesman Nabil Abu Rudeineh stressed that Israel must abide by signed accords and added that any solution must include the establishment of a Palestinian state.

A statement issued by Imad Falouji, the PA Minister of Communications and Postal Affairs, said that Netanyahu's declarations showed up Israel's intention regarding the peace process.

"Netanyahu's statements will bring the whole area onto the brink of war," Falouji told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday. He added that the PA would do everything within its power to intensify international and Arab pressure on Israel.

Falouji called on the US to stop behaving hypocritically towards Israel and instead demand that the accords be implemented. "The PA will refuse any compromise and will refuse to discuss any issues that are not implemented according to the signed agreements," he said.

"Talks of security plans or percentages less than stipulated in the accords will not be discussed by the PA and will not be accepted by the Palestinian people."

Meanwhile, in an interview with Channel 2 on Friday, Hamas spiritual leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin said Israel had turned down his truce of peace. "I proposed the truce, but they want all the land, and they want the peace at the same time, and they want the Palestinian people to be slaves of the occupation," he said.

Yassin referred to the breakdown in the peace process as no better than aspirin for profound problems caused by denial of Palestinian national aspiration. Bar-Ilan refused to comment on Yassin's remarks.

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Robert H. Asher, Chairman

With great sorrow we announce the sudden passing of our beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother

## ANNE MENER CZOPP

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Jack Pierre Mener  
Pepita Perez (Mener)  
Eva Kunstlicher (Czopp)  
and the family worldwide

אני מנר צופ



Last year, the army doubled the monthly wages for combat sol-

A gala fund-raiser for the scholarship fund is scheduled for January 4 at Tel Aviv's Herta and Paul Amiria Theatre.

The Jezzine enclave is formally outside the zone and held by the SLA, led by Christian Gen. Antoine Lahd.



"We are waiting for an answer from the Israelis on [the details of] our latest proposal that was discussed with the representatives of the Red Cross," he told

In July 1996, Hizbullah and Israel exchanged the remains of two Israeli soldiers the group had held since 1986 for the bodies of 126 Hizbullah fighters under a German-brokered deal.

ry came to a head following the 1994 kidnapping of Cpl. Nachshon Wachsmann, when the IDF unit was chosen over the police unit, both of which had trained for the job. The IDF unit subsequently failed in the rescue and its commander was killed, along with Wachsmann and three Hamas terrorists.

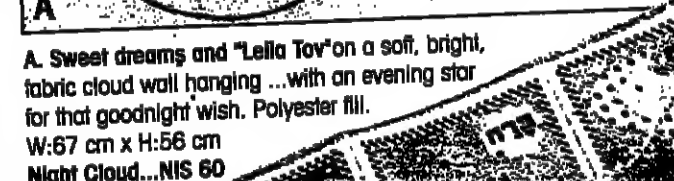
By ORLY AHARONI

"Sharon's finger is pointing at me," Hamelel warned sign and a threat. "Hamelel's B.S. Noga, referred to the dangerous concessions that American pressure can Israel to implement. Ma'ariv's Chemi Shalev concludes that it is a delusion anyone to think that 'Sharon climbed on a high horse because he was the last of the yells at Netanyahu... So Netanyahu continues to move toward the unknown, and all following him."

According to Ma'ariv's Nadav Haetzni, the leaders unanimously believe that "if Netanyahu is headed towards redemption, he should be brought down, whatever the political price might be." Yediot's Uri Elitzur claims that the council heads are wrong in their supposition that somehow the process can be stopped. "There is no trick, including the government crisis that will be able to buy more than a few weeks' time, followed by yet another decision to be made." Ma'ariv's Hagai Segal says that "if some settlements are already doomed, it really doesn't matter to the settlers who the executioner will be," adding that the angry crowd has nothing to lose and could easily decide to bring down the disappointing leadership it helped raise to power.

According to *Leistikow's* magazine, Barnea, the clean and honest reputation of the party was shattered this week once members began to exploit Hammer's state of health. *Hatzofeh's* Shaul Schiff attacked the press for its irresponsible listing of a "plot, a tale that has no bearing in reality." He claimed, luckily, no MK or minister of the NRP was responsible for the rumors that "do not bring relief to the Israeli press... devastated by hurting a hospitalized political leader and poisoning the atmosphere around him."

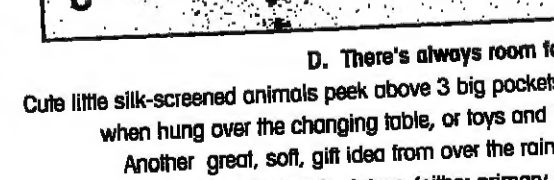
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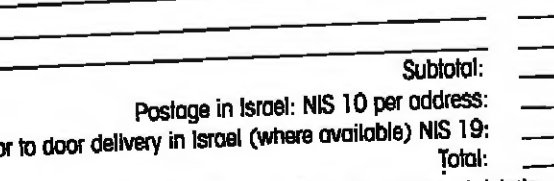
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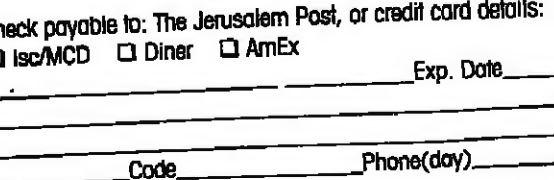
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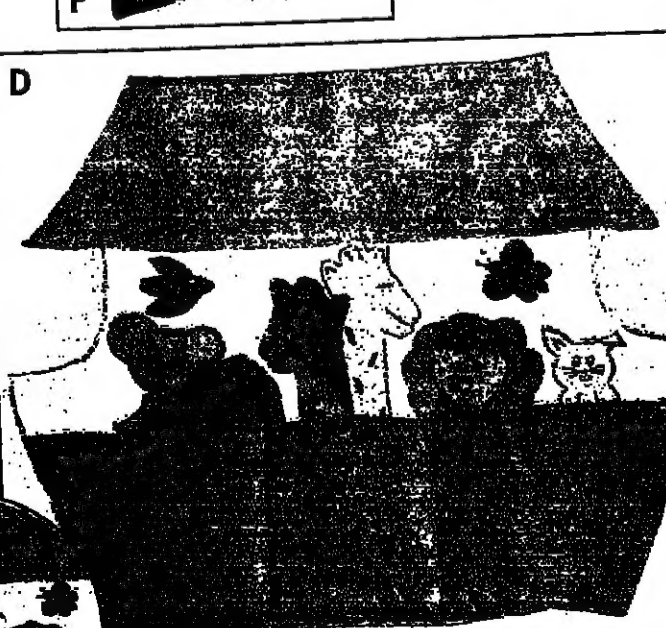
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## Moslem, Jewish kin quarrel at funeral

Jewish and Moslem relatives of a man who had converted to Judaism and back to Islam attacked each other with sticks and stones at his funeral Friday, and several mourners were injured.

The burial was supposed to have been a compromise between the feuding families, with Shaukat Kuza to be laid to rest in Haifa's Moslem cemetery, but adjacent to the Jewish section, and with rites from both religions.

However, disturbances broke out during the Moslem burial ceremony and police escorted Jewish family members away.

Kuza had lived with a Jewish woman for some 30 years, had three children with her, and converted to Judaism in 1994 before marrying her in a Jewish ceremony. But three days after he married her in November 1995, he went to an Islamic court in Hebron, converted back to Islam, and married a Moslem woman, without divorcing his Jewish wife. Moslems are allowed to marry up to four women.

After Kuza died recently of heart failure, each wife demanded to be allowed to bury him according to her religion. Before reaching a compromise, the two had petitioned the High Court of Justice. (News agencies)

## Yishai to present emergency employment plan to PM today

By Jerusalem Post Staff

A plan prepared by the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry to provide jobs to some 15,000 development town residents within the next few months is to be presented to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu today, the ministry said in a statement.

The plan, aimed at 17 towns with particularly high unemployment, was developed together with the local council heads and local teams appointed by the Directors-General Committee. They gathered information on businesses and industries in the area, available workers

and their education levels, and social welfare projects required to augment the job program.

The plan provides for retraining, subsidizing transportation to jobs, and new job projects.

Among the recommendations presented by the Directors-General Committee are: giving Priority A development status to these 17 towns, with particular incentives for high-tech businesses; the firing of some 20,000 foreign workers; new tax incentives for employers that hire people age 45 or older for at least a year; and massive government investment in infrastructure and transport.

The ministry's plan for more immediate implementation includes:

- helping some 3,600 people finish their basic education;
- professional training for fields that are generally in demand, for some 3,200 workers;
- professional training in conjunction with companies planning to open plants or expand their plans in the areas, to cover some 2,600 workers;
- retraining for 600 academics;
- transportation to workplaces for 780 workers;
- workshops in job-searching skills and placement services for some 3,000 workers;

operating public-work projects to employ some 1,100 people.

The plan is similar to one that was presented to the cabinet about a month ago, but which was torpedoed by the Treasury, which refused to allocate money from the National Insurance Institute to help fund it.

Given the serious unemployment figures released last week, Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai warned of a "social explosion" in towns hard-hit by unemployment and decided to push for the plan's adoption, with some small changes.

The plan is to cost NIS 128 million, to come from the Labor, Education, Industry and Trade, and Absorption ministries, as well as the Employment Service.

President Ezer Weizman, in a visit to Ofakim on Thursday, promised he would do his best to get firms to move their plants and offices to the town, which has an unemployment rate estimated at 20 percent.

A group of artists is to visit Ofakim this week in an effort to raise morale during Hanukkah, his wife, Reuma, said.

Batsheva Tsor contributed to this report.

## Legal int'l adoptions to begin next month

By ESTHER HECHT

Childless Israelis are on the verge of being able to adopt children from other countries legally, as two recent developments have brought closer the fulfillment of their desire to become parents.

Knesset Law Committee chairman Shaul Yahalom announced last week that the law on international adoptions, passed 18 months ago, will go into effect next month.

Technically, the law – which allows for such adoptions through recognized, nonprofit agencies – went into effect on May 2, but the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry and the Justice Ministry had not yet prepared the regulations necessary for it to be implemented. Those regulations were finally presented on December 8, and the committee is now winding up its consideration of them.

In addition, the Knesset last week passed an amendment to the Adoption Law, allowing Israelis to adopt a child from abroad who is of another religion. (In local adoptions, the adoptive parents and the child must be of the same religion.) The amendment is necessary in cases in which the country of origin allows the child to be brought here without a court order and the formal adoption takes place here, explained Prof. Eliezer Jaffe of the Hebrew University's Barzilai School of Social Work, who was a prime mover of the new law.

The amendment effectively separates adoption and conversion

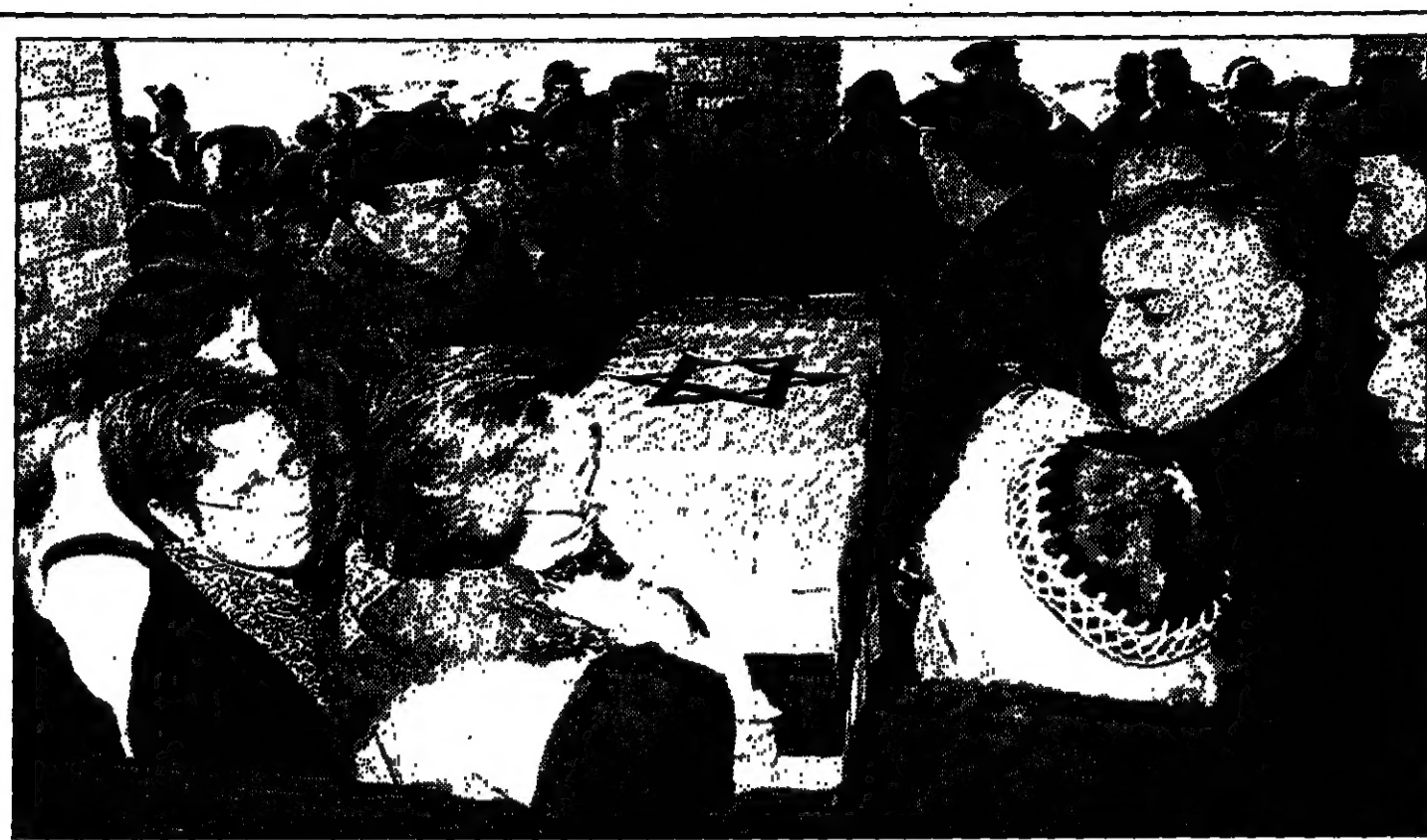
and allows adoptions to proceed while the conversion issue is still being thrashed out, Jaffe said.

The new law has been awaited so eagerly because no more than 70-80 healthy infants are available locally for adoption each year, and the wait for a baby is more than six years. The regulations under consideration relate to how international adoption agencies are accredited, the maximum fees they may charge, and how they may advertise their services.

The committee authorized the agencies to charge NIS 35,000, in addition to expenses they incur abroad. Israelis who have adopted children abroad in the past, often in circumstances that were fraught with uncertainty and fear, have had to pay as much as \$30,000.

Yahalom called on women's groups to set up nonprofit agencies to handle international adoptions. Na'amat has the most experience in the field, Jaffe said. It set up a nonprofit agency, Aleh, to handle adoptions in Romania soon after the law was passed and located more than two dozen babies. But a change in government there led to a freeze of foreign adoptions, and proceedings begun through Aleh were stalled until Health Minister Yehoshua Matza intervened while recently visiting Romania.

Two main issues not yet dealt with in the final meeting of the law committee concern professional requirements of the adoption agencies and the demand that each agency post a NIS 500,000 bond.



Narkiss buried

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai (right) attends the funeral of former OC Central Command Uzi Narkiss at Jerusalem's Mt. Herzl Military Cemetery on Friday.

## ACCIDENTS

Continued from Page 1

But Transport Ministry policymakers contend that while there is much to learn from abroad, solutions that work there aren't always applicable here.

Link recalls that when he discussed the idea of speed cameras with traffic safety experts in England, he asked them if any of England's cameras had been vandalized. "They said, 'Oh no, and they couldn't believe that Israeli drivers would do such a thing. 'Give them time,' I told them."

There are about 100 speed cameras being used on an experimental basis in Haifa and four other cities, and some have had their lenses painted over or broken by vandals. Link says he's waiting for the cameras to be shot up by M-16s.

"Israelis aren't Englishmen," he explains.

A bicycle helmet law, Link maintains, is on the books only in Victoria, Australia. Traffic safety policymakers in England, Holland and other countries have told him that while they know it would reduce the number of deaths, it would be hell to enforce.

"A car driver has an ID card, a license – if you give him a ticket, you can follow it up," says Link. "A bicycle rider has no license, and if he's a kid he carries no ID card. The police will write out a million tickets for failure to wear bicycle helmets, the riders will throw them in the garbage and nobody will have any idea how to catch them."

Shmuel Herschkovitz, the new director of the Transport Ministry's National Road Safety Authority, said that what impresses him most about traffic safety policy abroad is tough enforcement; driver safety education not only for youngsters in school but also for adults in the workplace; hard-hitting public service spots and, above all, long-term, multi-year safety programming.

The trend coming out of Europe, he says, is to look to technological solutions to create "smart roads" or

"forgiving roads" – roads engineered for such safety that the driver doesn't have to pay with his life or health if he makes a mistake.

More and more, Israel will be taking that route, he says.

There are also technological solutions to create the "smart driver," Herschkovitz adds. In Germany, Holland, France and parts of the US, drivers receive minutely localized traffic instructions over the radio, telling them how to detour around impending traffic jams.

The program, called Radio Data System (RDS), is intended to improve traffic flow, but also reduces traffic accidents, Herschkovitz maintains.

"When a driver has to sit in a traffic jam, he gets tense and aggressive, and as soon as he gets out of the jam, he lets all his pent-up aggression out. This helps him avoid it," he said.

Israel is starting work on its own RDS program, and Herschkovitz expects it to be on the air, in your car, in a year or two. "It's sort of like Big Brother," he says.

Second in a four-part series.

Tomorrow: Is Israel on the right road?

## Where to eat in Israel

### Eilat

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Beethoven: Symphony no. 5

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Dvorak: Symphony no. 9

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Roni Milo

Mayor of Tel Aviv-Yafo



## Yeltsin's Chechnya trip in doubt

**MOSCOW (Reuters)** — Renewed tensions between Moscow and Chechnya are raising doubts over President Boris Yeltsin's plan to visit the separatist Russian region next month.

A Chechen commander said yesterday that Yeltsin had been sentenced to death, prompting an angry reaction from Moscow.

Yeltsin, who in 1994 sent tanks to try to crush Chechnya's separatist drive, is scheduled to visit the largely Muslim republic next month. The Russian president remains hospitalized in a Moscow sanatorium for a bad cold.

Salman Raduyev, the hard-line rebel fighter who led a bloody hostage raid in Russia at the start of last year, said in Grozny he was "making public a verdict by the Supreme Shariah Court of the Caucasus sentencing Yeltsin to death."

"The court sentenced Yeltsin to death under the laws of Allah, the will and demands of numerous Mujahideen and using the exclusive right for vengeance for the massacre of Muslims and civilians in the Caucasus," he told a rally.

The statement prompted an angry reaction from Yeltsin's press office.

"This impudent statement of this ill-famed terrorist is aimed first of all at wrecking the dialogue between Moscow and Grozny, at aggravating the situation in the North Caucasus."

### News Agencies

**MOSCOW** — Russian commandos killed a lone hostage-taker yesterday to end a drama lasting more than six hours in the grounds of the Swedish embassy in Moscow.

"An operation was carried out and the terrorist was killed in it. We are establishing his identity," Nikolai Kovalyov, director of the Federal Security Service (FSB), told reporters outside the embassy.

An armed Russian man seeking ransom seized a diplomat at the Swedish Embassy in Moscow Friday night and was killed by commandos after swapping the Swede for a Russian security official.

The negotiator from the Russian anti-terrorism unit identified as Savelyev died in hospital from wounds early yesterday, doctors said.

Following hours of tense negotiations between security agents and the grenade-clutching attacker, reporters at the scene heard what sounded like a muffled explosion and several shots and saw agents rushing to the Volvo car where the attacker was sitting.

A man was then carried to an ambulance vehicle nearby, and the attacker's body could be seen lying near the Volvo. He was apparently shot by a sniper through the car's side window during the swift charge early yesterday.

Inter-Tass news agency quoted Alexander Zdanovich, a spokesman for the FSB security service, as saying Savelyev was wounded "in the course of the action which led to the criminal's extermination."

Kovalyov said the use of force was "the only possible" way to deal with the attacker, who

demanding \$270,000 in rubles and hard currency and a flight out of Russia.

Swedish authorities did not object to the use of firearms against the man, who gave his name as Andrei, he said. The FSB agent, Savelyev, suffered a heart attack in the rescue operation, Kovalyov added, according to the Interfax news agency. However, witnesses and police said later the officer was wounded.

Interfax said that agent was the one who replaced the captive Swede, identified as Jan-Olof Nystrom, Stockholm's trade representative in Russia.

Nystrom was not harmed during the six-hour drama, although Interfax said he was suffering from psychological stress and was hospitalized.

The Swede was seized early Friday evening just outside the embassy in southwestern Moscow, 5 kilometers from the Kremlin, a city police spokesman said.

Interfax said the hostage was seized as he was driving his car into the embassy compound on Mosfilmovskaya street.

Police cordoned off all approaches as about 200 officers, anti-terrorist fighters and rescue workers surrounded the compound, some crowding near a brightly lit Christmas tree at the entrance.

The attacker held Nystrom in the Swede's car, parked within the compound. The vehicle, with its boot to the embassy building, was blinking its lights in the dark from time to time.

Several people, including a medic, were seen approaching the car at times to negotiate with the hostage-taker. At one point, two men passed a package to the vehi-

cle's occupants, and about an hour later a bottle also was passed inside.

More than four hours after seizing the Swede, the man agreed to swap his captive for a FSB official. According to Inter-Tass, Nystrom was replaced by the volunteer hostage shortly before midnight.

Police told Inter-Tass the attacker appeared to be mentally unstable and was "grabbing the grenade pin all the time."

Kovalyov, the FSB chief, and Interior Minister Anatoly Kulikov personally directed security operations at the embassy.

The hostage-taking attack came on the eve of the 80th anniversary of Russia's security services, which is being marked today.

Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin said a thorough investigation of the events was necessary.

"I want to warn all those who would wish to play such cruel games with people's lives that punishment is inevitable," Chernomyrdin told Inter-Tass. "No terrorist shall escape a just retribution. All those who are undertaking such actions are doomed from the beginning."

The attacker's age and identity remained unclear, with Interfax saying police have identified him as Alexei Raskov. It was also not immediately clear whether he was only armed with a hand grenade, since earlier reports said he also carried a pistol.

Savelyev, a Colonel with the Federal Security Service (FSB), had served about 20 years in the elite Alpha anti-terrorism unit, taking part in operations in Afghanistan, Nagorno Karabakh and Chechnya.



Russian security officers carry away a fatally wounded comrade after killing a hostage-taker in Moscow early yesterday. Earlier, the captor took a Swedish diplomat hostage in his car on the premises of the Swedish Embassy in Moscow, demanding a ransom and a flight out of Russia. (Reuters)

## Where to stay in Israel

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# 10-month-old Boeing 737 crashes, killing 104

SINGAPORE (Reuters) - Rescue workers have found no sign of survivors in Indonesian mangrove swamps, where a Singapore SilkAir Boeing 737-300 crashed with 104 people aboard on Friday, Singapore officials said yesterday.

They said three large pieces of wreckage had been found following the crash that some witnesses on the ground said was preceded by a loud bang or explosion.

"No bodies have been found so far," the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) said in a statement some 24 hours after the SilkAir plane disappeared from radar screens without sending a distress message.

"Neither were any survivors found and there are no indications that there are any survivors," the CAAS said.

Why the 10-month old jet crashed on Friday evening over flat terrain north of Palembang in south Sumatra remained a mystery.

"We can't understand this," said Captain Len McCully, a member of the Singapore Airlines (SIA) board. SilkAir is a regional holiday arm of SIA.

"We don't have any information on what transpired," Communications Minister Mah Bow Tan told reporters. "As far as we know, there were no adverse weather conditions."

Singapore officials said the wreckage was spread over an area of two by four nautical miles. One Indonesian official said witnesses reported the plane exploded in mid-air before it came down.

But SilkAir Chairman Chew Choon Seng dismissed premature speculation. "Typically in accidents and tragedies you will get all sorts of claims which can end up being inaccurate," he told reporters.

Hundreds of people, including Indonesian navy and police divers, probed the muddy waters of the Musi River into which the plane crashed. Both countries have sent naval ships and Singapore has added helicopters to the search effort.

Only "body parts and pieces of aircraft wreckage on land and water" had been found so far from the plane which went down half way through a flight from Jakarta to Singapore, the CAAS statement said.

The debris included three large pieces of the plane, but the "black box" which records flight details and is often a key to determining the cause of crashes was still missing, CAAS officials said.

Most of the 97 passengers were from Singapore, Indonesia and elsewhere in Southeast Asia, but they included Europeans and Americans.

SilkAir said the pilot was 41-year-old Singaporean Tsu Way Ming, who had 6,900 hours of flying experience and joined the airline in 1992.

A team of seven experts from the United States, including representatives of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Boeing and the engine manufacturer were expected to arrive in Palembang late today, a CAAS spokesman said.

A Boeing spokeswoman said in the United States on Friday the company "doesn't speculate on the cause of these incidents."

It was the first crash of a SilkAir plane. Singapore Airlines has never had a crash, Singapore authorities said.

The aircraft was the newest in SilkAir's fleet.



A helicopter searches the crash site of a Singapore SilkAir Boeing-737 plane yesterday over the Musi River in Sumatra. The plane went down Friday with 104 people on board. (AP)

## Wreckage of Ukrainian jet found in Greece

FOTINA, Greece (AP) - Rescue teams yesterday reached the charred wreckage of a Ukrainian passenger jet on a remote slope near the Mount Olympus range and said none of the 70 people aboard survived.

Greek officials also mourned five air force officers killed when their military plane crashed on its way to help the search.

Rescue workers, investigators and reporters who reached the site of Wednesday's crash, said little remained of the Soviet-

designed Yak-42. It was found in a heavily wooded area at an altitude of about 4,000 feet near this small village, about 40 miles southwest of Salonica.

"There are no survivors. The entire time we were up there we found nothing. You can't even separate the cockpit from the earth, it is one mass," one soldier told reporters as he made his way down the mountain. He did not give his name.

Heavy snow and thick fog frustrated efforts to find the plane, a

search that involved more than 5,000 civilian and military personnel.

The chartered Yak-42, carrying mostly Greek and Ukrainian passengers, crashed while on a second attempt to land at the northern port of Salonica. It had left Odessa, Ukraine, for Salonica.

Greek aviation officials said it appeared that the pilot, who had never flown to Salonica, was disoriented and could have assumed he had cleared the high mountains southwest of the city.

## Gulf summit calls for new era with Iran

KUWAIT (Reuters) - Six Gulf Arab states yesterday opened an annual summit with a Kuwaiti call on powerful neighbor Iran to embark upon a new era in its relations with Gulf countries.

Host Kuwaiti Emir Sheikh Jaber Sabah urged Tehran to resolve its dispute with Abu Dhabi over three Gulf islands "so we can enter together into a new era in our ties which will contribute to achieving regional hopes for security, stability and development."

The Emir said, while in Tehran this month for an Islamic summit, "I felt that a new era is emerging in neighborly ties built on brotherhood, mutual respect, non-interference, rejection of the use of force or threatening to use it."

The pro-Western Gulf

Cooperation Council (GCC) summit is due to discuss a wide range of issues, including long-delayed economic and military integration, a common policy towards regional powers Iraq and Iran, terrorism and the stalled Middle East peace process.

Saudi Arabia is the dominant power within the oil-rich GCC which was formed in 1981 along with Kuwait, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Bahrain.

In a further sign of improved ties, Gulf Arab sources said that Iran's new President Mohammad Khatami and Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi might visit Abu Dhabi after the summit to discuss the dispute over the three Gulf islands.

In varying degrees, most Gulf

Arab states have responded favorably to recent overtures by Khatami to end years of mistrust and tension. Khatami, a moderate Shi'ite Muslim cleric, assumed office in August.

On military integration, Kuwait's Sheikh Jaber said in his opening address the alliance "must stress the realization of the principle of joint defense and the comprehensive development of our military capabilities."

Gulf Arab military officers said earlier that the summit was expected to approve the integration of GCC command, control, communications and intelligence systems - a first step towards a plan to set up a region-wide air defense shield.

The three-day summit is also

expected to approve the setting up of an appointed GCC consultative body aimed at granting ordinary citizens some say in the affairs of the alliance.

Sheikh Jaber said the new body should not become a "center for employment... bogged down in administrative duties" but one which studies and analyzes issues presented by the GCC leaders.

Voicing a commonly held Arab view, the Emir blamed Israel for blocking the Middle East peace process, slamming it for failing to honor peace deals with Palestinians.

He also called on world states to "adopt a strict stand" in the face of Israel, reiterating a GCC call for an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

## Jagan sworn in as Guyana president

### News agencies

GEORGETOWN, Guyana - Janet Jagan, the American-born Jewish widow of Guyana's leader Cheddi Jagan, was sworn in on Friday to become the first woman president of the former British colony in South America, amid protests from opposition parties.

The 77-year-old grandmother from Chicago, who says she ran for president reluctantly and only to carry on the legacy of her husband who died nine months ago, beat former president Desmond Hoyte, 68.

"Our country has won the acclamation of the world for having assured our complete return to the democratic fold," she said at a formal ceremony in the official residence where her husband



Janet Jagan (AP)

took the same presidential oath five years ago.

Looking relaxed in a navy blue skirt suit, Jagan said:

"We are all winners - never

mind the party we voted for or against."

But Hoyte, who has questioned Monday's general election ever since the first returns started to trickle in, has said he will contest the results and that his lawyers are already exploring legal options.

As Jagan was giving her victory speech, two court officers showed up with an injunction to immediately stop the swearing-in ceremony.

The marshalls then traded shoves and shouts with security guards, to the jeers of Jagan's supporters.

Jagan took the court papers herself and tossed them over her right shoulder.

Eleven people were injured when police fired pellets and tear gas at protesters who claimed the election was rigged, police said.

In the country's second democratic election since independence in 1966, Jagan's left-leaning People's Progressive Party/Civic alliance (PPP/Civic) was declared the winner earlier on Friday after taking over half of the estimated 380,000 votes cast, versus 144,359 for Hoyte's

opposition People's National Congress (PNC).

In a brief radio broadcast on Friday morning, incumbent PPP/Civic president Samuel Hinds appealed for peace and asked the army to begin patrols in the wake of protests Thursday by PNC supporters that saw police fire tear gas at some 3,000 demonstrators.

Witnesses said Georgetown remained calm over the weekend as small groups of army and police made the rounds of the capital's leafy streets.

Jagan, who arrived in her adopted homeland 54 years ago, was elected with a mandate to rule the ethnically-mixed and sparsely-populated country of approximately 800,000 for five years.

Campaigning on the slogan "One good term deserves another," the PPP/Civic offered a racially balanced three-person ticket that also included presidential incumbent Sam Hinds, a black who will be Jagan's prime minister, and an Indian, young Finance Minister Bharrat Jagdeo, 33, who will be vice president but is expected to retain his portfolio.

## Turkey to buy 26 Boeing 737s

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Turkish Airlines signed an agreement on Friday to buy 26 Boeing 737-800 aircraft and took options on 23 more in a deal valued at up to \$2.5 billion, a US official said.

The signing took place at the White House, with Turkish Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz and Vice President Al Gore looking on. Yilmaz announced the deal Thursday, but did not specify how many of the aircraft were firm orders and how many were options, which may or may not be exercised.

Yilmaz was in Washington for a meeting with US President Bill Clinton.

In part, he appeared to be seeking to draw Ankara and Washington closer following the European Union's decision last week to exclude Turkey from a list of countries with which it plans to begin membership talks.

Speaking after a 40-minute White House meeting between the two leaders, US officials said

they expected Turkey to keep seeking EU membership despite its repeated threats to abandon the process after the EU snubbed its application last week.

"We have promoted... the integration of Turkey into Europe and the discussions that they recently had with the European Union ended inconclusively," Gore told reporters after the meeting. "The discussion is one that will continue. There will be another chapter."

Yilmaz confirmed that he has not closed the door on those discussions despite having some disappointments.

In choosing to buy the Boeing aircraft, Turkish Airlines has snubbed rival planes made by Europe's Airbus Industrie consortium.

"Today's agreement is more than a simple commercial transaction," Yilmaz told reporters at the signing ceremony.

"It's a \$2 billion investment in the future of our two nations and

it confirms that Turkey - for decades a key military and strategic ally of the United States - is also becoming... important to US economic interests," he added.

Turkey said earlier this year it was planning to buy 50 civilian aircraft worth a total of \$4 billion from Boeing in an offset agreement under which Turkey would manufacture some of the plane parts. At the time, it said it was also considering offers from Airbus and other companies.

The 737-800, a short-to-medium-range airplane, is a stretched version of the current 737-400 and is capable of carrying 160 to 189 passengers.

"The agreement represents a significant milestone for The Boeing Company," Ron Woodard, president, Boeing Commercial Airplane Group, said in a statement. "It will support Boeing commercial airplane production in the United States, and it strengthens our relationship with a valued, long-time customer."

## Bodyguard questioned again over Diana accident

PARIS (AP) - Looking weak, limping slightly and still visibly scarred from his injuries, bodyguard Trevor Rees-Jones was questioned yet again Friday about the crash that killed Princess Diana. But his memory apparently hasn't improved.

"There is nothing new," a source close to the investigation said. "He still doesn't remember the accident."

That conclusion was confirmed by two other sources.

All three, who spoke on condition of anonymity, had seen Judge Herve Stephan's written report of his meeting with Rees-Jones, the sole survivor of the August 31 crash.

The bodyguard's lawyer, Christian Curiel, would say only the two-hour meeting had "gone well" and that his client was "doing better physically."

Yet Rees-Jones, a husky, 29-year-old former paratrooper, looked grim and unsteady as he entered Paris' main courthouse, trailed by a crowd of photographers and TV cameras.

His eye was blackened, and his face still scarred from the accident that killed Diana, her boyfriend Dodi Fayed, and their driver.

After nearly four months, investigators still have no clear cause for the crash, though they still apparently believe alcohol and speed were the main factors. Driver Henri Paul was drunk and

believed to have been driving at a very high speed.

Investigators also are trying to find a white Fiat Uno that may have been involved. Physical evidence indicates the Mercedes sideswiped a small white car just before losing control and crashing into a pillar in the Pont de l'Alma traffic tunnel.

A legal source said Friday that a new witness was interviewed on Nov. 25 by Judge Marie-Christine Devidal. The witness described seeing a small white car in front of the Mercedes just after the crash. He said he saw a man standing outside the car, speaking on a cellular telephone, and soon after he saw two men, who had been in the vehicle, running quickly out of the tunnel.

The witness, whose name was not provided by the source, heard the Mercedes' horn blaring, the source said, meaning he was at the scene in the first moments - before rescuers arrived to move driver Paul's body off the horn.

It wasn't clear why the witness had come forward so long after the accident.

Rees-Jones has struggled with memory loss since the accident, and even took a trip back to the tunnel in November. But that doesn't appear to have jogged his memory.

In two previous meetings, he's told investigators he remembers getting into the Mercedes at the Ritz Hotel and being followed by

paparazzi, but doesn't recall the actual crash.

He recently joined the investigation as a civil party, meaning he has access to documents in the case, and can sue for damages if anyone is ever found responsible.

Other civil parties are Rees-Jones's boss - Mohammed Al Fayed, father of Dodi - and representatives of Diana's family, the Spencers.

Much of Friday's two-hour meeting was spent explaining to Rees-Jones his rights as a civil party, the sources said.

Afterwards, he was spirited through a back entrance to evade reporters.

He rode in a convoy of two black Mercedes - rented, according to the drivers, from the same company from which Diana's Mercedes came that fatal night. They whisked him back to the airport, where he took a private plane back to England.

One of the photographers vying for a view of Rees-Jones Friday was Nikolas Arsov, who is still under investigation in the crash.

Arsov, of the Sipa agency, plus eight other photographers and a press motorcyclist, haven't been formally charged. Many expect them to be soon cleared of any involvement.

Arsov said he was "just doing my job" by continuing to cover the story.

"If they send me to a story, I do it," he said.

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הנהלת האתר



# King saved by his court



By David Isaacson

**B**.B. King just asks to be damned with faint praise. The great guitarist and singer has for years been putting on foot-tapping R&B shows which don't rise above the pleasant. If you saw him at the Sultan's Pool in 1981 and at the Jerusalem International Convention Center (Binayoni Ha'ana) last year, you'd have realized that nothing much had changed, though guest appearances by David Broza and Ronnie Peterson did liven up the latter gig.

He doesn't push himself, his vaulted love of Lucille - his guitar - sounds stale, and the blues become akin to a cabaret act. Yet who but King could attract the plethora of big names who grace the 17 tracks - one guest act

## DEUCES WILD

B.B. King (Red Arts)

IN WONDERLAND  
Night Ark (Heliom)

per song - on *Deuces Wild*? Who else could get the Rolling Stones (all four of them), Eric Clapton, Van Morrison, Mick Hucknall, Jools Holland and David Gilmour to cross the pond, not for the glory of a high-profile benefit but for the graft of a recording studio.

The guests bring depth to King's otherwise two-dimensional R&B. Former Squeeze pianist Holland's exhilarating boogie-woogie style shows how wasted he is as a TV host; Dionne Warwick's gorgeous vocals clearly impress King on

Leon Russell's excellent "Hummingbird." Heavy D takes our man right out of himself on the delicious, witty rap number, "Keep It Coming"; Willie Nelson transports us to the contrived West on his own "Night Life." Clapton is the other half of a hot guitar duet on "Rock Me, Baby"; Hucknall's high voice complements the King growl on Percy Mayfield's classic, "Please Send Me Someone to Love." And not even a subdued Tracy Chapman mars an irresistible version of the old King favorite, "The Thrill is Gone." As for the Stones, on their first recorded appearance since the superb *Bridges to Babylon*, they sound a bit lackluster, but Mick does get to play the harmonica.

This is a remarkable compilation in which even the backing musicians, especially the horns, excel. But be warned: A number of tracks fade out, some in mid-jam.

"WORLD MUSIC" has become a catch-all genre for virtually anything that's not sung in English or which tends to be either ethnic (something which goes beyond four beats in a bar) or ambient (doesn't have any beats in any bars). Any number of Western musicians (Paul Simon, Sting, Peter Gabriel) have leapt onto the bandwagon in attempts to revive flagging careers.

Less famous but more authentically inspired is the band Night Ark. Three of Night Ark's four members are expatriate Armenians whose music refers lovingly to their cultural roots. In *Wonderland* - an appropriately named melange of diverse melodies and rhythms, strange time signatures and unusual instruments - well represents Armenia's own fusion of cultures. "Going with Abandon" evokes the sound of a busy Arab market, the plaintive "Horn Merter" sounds like a Turkish moral fable. Elsewhere, supplicatory background voices invoke a spirituality all the purer for being nonsectarian.

The band is led by the American-born Ara Dinkjian, who plays Middle Eastern string instruments such as the oud, cumbus, saz and kanun in addition to the synthesizer. Most of the Western

elements are provided by pianist Armen Donelian, whose beautiful solo on the romantic "Lisa" would stand out on any disc. There are also traces of Al DiMeola and Joe Zawinul, with whom Turkish-born

percussionist Arto Tunçboyacıyan has played. (Donelian has been a sideman with Sonny Rollins, and bassist Marc Johnson has played with Bill Evans and Stan Getz.) In *Wonderland* has a sweet and

fetching vivacity which takes it into a realm not often reached in world music. And the melody on "They Love Me 15 Feet Away" is pretty and haunting enough to stay with you all day.

Inspired by diverse guests, B.B. King goes beyond his two-dimensional R&B act on 'Deuces Wild.'



## Yiddish festival to tour the country

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

**L**ast December, when Yiddishist Ella Gaffen launched a week-long Yiddish festival at the Neveh ilan resort hotel where she is the sales and marketing manager, she was pleasantly surprised by the local response. People came from all over the country to the Yiddish cabaret night and were eager to have a similar form of entertainment throughout the year.

Gaffen, who was recently elected chairperson of the Yiddish Dor Hemshech ("Next Generation") group, was all set to turn the festival into an annual event, but she didn't realize until she became involved with Dor Hemshech what a craving there is for Yiddish all year round.

Once the upcoming second annual Yiddish festival is out of the way, she plans to organize a series of Yiddish musical and cultural events, not just in Neveh ilan, but in every city and town in which there is a sizable Yiddish-speaking population.

At the moment she has her hands full putting the final touches to the festival, which has aroused considerable interest via the Internet - <http://world.std.com/~yv/mendele-brochure.html> (Gaffen made her first Yiddish Internet connections last year, and this year made even more.)

Although people will be coming from several countries, she says, attendance will be much lower than initially anticipated because foreign tourists are bypassing Israel this year.

"The Yiddish festival is going to be an annual tradition," she promises. "People know that there's a Yiddish festival in Israel in the last week of December, so if they don't make it this year, they'll come next year or the year after."

The festival, which begins next Sunday and concludes on January 3, is more than just entertainment. Like a convention, it includes tours around the country and visits to historical sites, museums and other places of interest. The difference is that the guides will all be speaking Yiddish.

Whereas most other tourist groups visit the haredi neighborhood of Mea She'arim in Jerusalem, to witness a lifestyle remote from the 20th century, participants in the Yiddish festival are going there because Mea She'arim is one of the few places in Israel where children converse in Yiddish at home, at school and in the street.

To anyone who may doubt that Yiddish still has a future, Mea She'arim provides contrary evidence. But Mea She'arim, according to Gaffen, is not an isolated example. There seems to be a Yiddish revival in many parts of the Jewish world, she says, noting that classes and retreats are springing up all over the place, in addition to Yiddish-language projects at Columbia University in the US, Oxford University in England and several other institutes of higher learning.

Thousands of Jews from the former Soviet Union, to the surprise of Jews in other communities where they've settled over the past decade or so, speak excellent Yiddish, and are making an impact on Yiddish culture both in Israel and the Diaspora.

In Canada, where Gaffen was raised, there's a *Mameloshen* organization in Montreal and a Friends of Yiddish organization in Toronto.



Ella Gaffen: Satisfying a popular craving for Yiddish

When Gaffen, during a recent visit to her family, asked the Canadian Yiddish organizations for help with the festival, the reaction was negative. "Why should we help," she was asked, "if Israel pushed Yiddish away and tried to get rid of it?"

Gaffen's answer was that in the beginning this had to be the policy so that Hebrew could come back into its own glory, but Israel as the homeland of the Jewish people is the most logical place in which Yiddish should be preserved and nourished "so that we can keep its vitality."

Many non-Jews are learning Yiddish to get a better appreciation of Yiddish literature and of pre-Holocaust Jewry. Gaffen points out, adding that among the festival participants will be a group of non-Jewish Yiddish students from Germany, some of whom were here last year.

The festival offers something for everyone: Yiddish prose and poetry readings; anecdotes by master storyteller Yossel Birstein, reminiscences about the good old days by a veteran Jerusalemite; recollections in Yiddish of illegal immigration by Murray Greenfield, who has told the story many times in English; variety and musical performances by Mendy Kahan, Nehama Hendel, Ruth Levin, Nitzah Tothi and Benny Hendel; simulation games in Yiddish with Leah Skiva; and a Shabbat celebration almost entirely in Yiddish.

The guide accompanying participants on most of the tours will be Asher Haimovitz, the cantor of Jerusalem's Yeshurun Synagogue, who in all probability will relieve the boredom of the bus journeys with bursts of Yiddish song. It doesn't take much to get him started, say his admirers. All he needs is an appreciative audience.

The participants will also visit the Knesset, where they will be given a guided tour in Yiddish by former Speaker Labor MK Shevah Weiss.

One of the more serious events at the festival will be a late afternoon session on December 30 at Yad Vashem where there will be a review of Holocaust Yiddish literature, a lecture on Yiddish culture in Poland and a recital of Yiddish songs written and performed during the Holocaust.

Gaffen, who is negotiating till the last minute to expand the festival program, says that there will be several surprises.

## Ankri makes you want to cry

Sabra Sounds



By Emily Hauser

**E**tti Ankri is very talented, but not exactly lighthearted. While *Lamrot Uviglal* has some fun rhythms and is certainly less sorrowful than her work has been in the past, the casual listener should not approach Ankri's latest album in the hope of finding snappy, feel-good tunes.

Indeed, even the snappiest of the songs, the radio-friendly "Nikah Mimeni Sod" ("A Secret's Been Taken From Me") contains lines like, "We hugged each other hard /

LAMROT UVIGLAL  
("Nonetheless And Regardless")  
Etti Ankri  
(NMC)  
(★★★)

Until it really hurt." The title track may be a love song, but in it Ankri seems unsure as to whether love is a good thing: "This love / When it comes back / Will make the light / Overflow its banks / And we won't be able to stop again / Like alcohol / Rolling around in a drunk's throat."

Then there are the songs about domestic violence, children damaged by what they see in the adult world, and Ankri's take on the state of the nation: "There's no king / And no prophet / And if you're the messenger / Who's going to bring peace?"



Etti Ankri wrote all the songs on 'Lamrot Uviglal' but she would benefit from collaborating with other artists. (Moshe Shai)

Every one of the songs on *Lamrot Uviglal* was written by Ankri, and she plays piano on several tracks.

Her lovely, eloquent voice is backed by an impressive band - including my personal nominee for the top-five list of Israeli percus-

sionists, Zohar Fresco - and such well-known guests as Alon Olschik and Yizhar Ashdot. There are elements of French chansons and purely Middle Eastern sounds and woven with typical Israeli pop, and the production brings all of these elements into a cohesive whole, everything supporting - without overwhelming - everything else.

The problem is that at some point the songs begin to run together, sounding just a little too much like each other. Ankri also has a trademark singing style which, while expressive, begins to border on an artistic rut. Perhaps she should collaborate more on her next release; after all, even Lennon and McCartney needed each other.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Q: Louis Lohr, the vocal producer on Etti Ankri's *Lamrot Uviglal*, engineered which two classic American rock albums?  
A: *The Wild, the Innocent and the E Street Shuffle* and *Born to Run* by the ultimate American rocker, Bruce Springsteen.

## Maestro says young violinists lack soul

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

**A**s a child growing up in Dresden, Henry Meyer used to play chamber music with his father and other family members and friends. He played the first violin but when he was 10, "one of those whom I played with and who was like a surrogate father to me suggested that I play the second violin in Schubert's A minor quartet. I agreed but played it like a Kreutzer etude. He was very angry, accusing me of being interested only in technique and not the music itself. He even said he didn't want to see me again."

Today, at 74, Meyer seems to be accusing young violin students of the same faults. "There is talent galore out there. You can stand there and be jealous of what these kids can provide, but what is it all for? Why are they doing it? Is there any soul behind it? The answer is usually negative."

Meyer says that the incident in his childhood "left a lasting effect on me. But you must remember that in contrast to the violinists I'm talking about, I was only 10 years old."

Meyer recalls that "when I first picked up a violin at age six, I knew this was what I would do for life." But when he was 13, the Nazis expelled all Jewish children from the schools. "From that time on I had to learn it all by myself. And later in my life, when we played in camps all over the USA, I was always saddened by the fact that I could never have such an education."

At 15, Meyer was imprisoned and transferred to Buchenwald. After his release, he joined the Jewish Kulturbund Orchestra in Berlin. In 1943 he was deported to Auschwitz. Eventually he was sent back to Buchenwald and managed to escape. "All my life I knew I wanted to play the violin,

but after those three years I did not know if I still could. But then I spent three years of studies in Paris and it all came back."

In 1948 Meyer moved to the US, where he joined the renowned LaSalle Quartet. "We played together for 40 years. Now that I have retired, I do not miss playing; I have played enough."

Meyer is in Jerusalem to teach master classes at the Jerusalem Music Center. He will also return to the JMC in the summer, when he will be in charge of the Jerusalem International Chamber Music Encounters in which young professional chamber-music ensembles will be able to hone their craft with some of the greatest experts in the field.

With regard to why young musicians should play chamber music, he says, "It has the richest literature in existence. Composers have emerged at their very best when composing string quartets." But, Meyer adds, the life of a string player is a sad one. "You study all your life to fulfill your parents' ambitions. Once you have succeeded, you must get a good instrument, which costs a lot of money. And then you usually have to join an orchestra, which means the conductor tells you what to play and the concert master tells you how to play it. You are, within an instant, reduced from being an artist to being nothing more than a worker in a factory. Only chamber music can help you get out of this."

When it comes to teaching young musicians, Meyer says, "You have to show them how to hold to their own imagination. You can show them many things, but then it is up to them to use it."

Henry Meyer teaches master classes at the Jerusalem Music Center today. Admission free.

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## TOWER RECORDS' TOP 15

THIS LAST WEEKS ON	WEEK	WEEK	CHARTS	ARTIST	TITLE
#1	1	2	VIA	DIANA TRIBUTE	WITHOUT YOU
#2	2	30	VIA	EYAL GOLAN	KOLOL MIN HASHAMAYIM
#3	NEW	1	VIA	OLIVER SHANTI	CIRCLES OF LIFE
#4	5	2	VIA	MAVERICK ASTRIKE	NOW 36
#5	10	4	VIA	FINLEY QUAKE	SPICE WORLD
#6	19	2	VIA	SPICE GIRLS	B'ATIFA SHIEL MAMTAK
#7	9	7	VIA	SHABAK SAMECH	EYVATAR BANAI
#8	16	17	VIA	EYVATAR BANAI	EVERY BEST
#9	5	20	VIA	STING/POLICE	HITMAN 8
#10	11	4	VIA	BACKSTREET BOYS	BACKSTREET'S BACK
#11	RE	16	VIA	URBAN HYMNS	RAPSODY OVERTURE
#12	7	9	VIA	OM KOLTHOM	INTA OMRI
#13	3	9	VIA		
#14	17	3	VIA		
#15	18				

Tower Records' top-selling albums for last week

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## ANC needs an opposition

The African National Congress convention this week provides ample fodder for the debate on where South Africa is headed after Nelson Mandela. The most interesting, and perhaps one of the most vital, question is where a substantial democratic opposition to the ANC is going to come from.

The emergence of such an opposition is essential for the long-term future of South African democracy. It would seem to be of more importance than the talks for a merger between the ANC and the Zulu Inkatha Party. What the country may need is to move away from any traditional African trend towards monolithic parties.

Of course South Africa's constitution is one of the finest and most elaborate ever designed for a new state, and it would take the equivalent of a coup or a naked power grab to overturn it. Not even pessimists are suggesting that South Africa's future is anything but bright, given reasonably good government and good economics.

Thabo Mbeki was elected president of the ANC on Wednesday, and most likely will be the next president. He is a different man than Mandela, now safely canonized in history as the deeply loved father of the nation.

But different does not mean inferior. Mbeki has his own strengths, and at the politically young age of 55, he could reasonably expect to go to energetic full terms if elected president. He is an extremely intelligent politician and economist and has the trust of Mandela. The only question raised in the minds of South Africa's white and colored communities stems from his clear African nationalism, but it is probably no more serious than the fears of Africans that intransigent Afrikaanser "third forces" are burrowing away in a bid to undermine the state.

Mbeki certainly will take over with a fund of good will. But even the best of leaders needs opposing forces to keep the government on its toes. The newly aggressive media can provide some of that, but an effective opposition is as essential for healthy democracy as the rule of law and the supremacy of parliament. Both Mandela and Mbeki emphasized their concerns about national unity in the context of seeking closer cooperation with Zulu leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi and Mbeki said a link up would be a "progressive development."

This is true to some extent, given the bloodshed that has accompanied the ANC-Inkatha turf wars in KwaZulu-Natal, but a more positive development than a merger would be for the Inkatha to mature into one effective and non-violent opposition party. In South Africa's first election, Inkatha not only won a majority in its home province, but got a respectable 10 percent across the country.

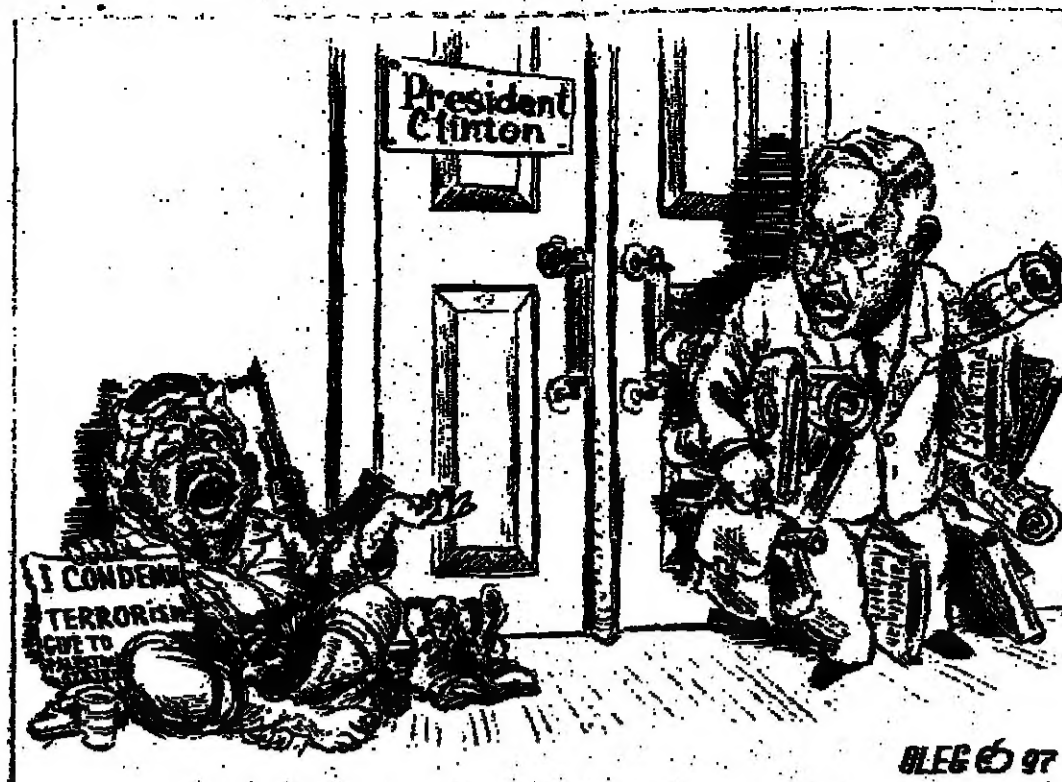
Since the former white ruling party failed to change its name and its spots to adopt to the new realities, it can be considered all but written off the political scene. Of more interest may be the power of the trade unions, now affiliated to the ANC but seen by many as the possible core of a powerful opposition party. This is especially relevant since worries were already being expressed at the ANC congress of a growing gap between the new haves of the black majority and the old have-nots. A South African newspaper this weekend neatly summed up the issue in a cartoon of seats being occupied by black fat-cats as white fat-cats vacated them.

The ANC yesterday agreed to speed up affirmative action across the whole racial spectrum to deal with poverty and disadvantage without merely creating a black bourgeoisie. Most trade union leaders are scornful of the examples of black empowerment that are regularly trotted out by the government — such as the number of black-owned businesses, or the fact that 10 percent of the stock exchange is in black hands. They dismiss this as "window dressing" or "token bourgeoisie."

However, foreign investors will be both pleased and perhaps surprised by the market-friendly economic policy the ANC convention laid out this weekend. The present and future government is presented with a trick balancing-act as it tries to boost foreign investor confidence, keep its talented and wealthy whites in the country, and find jobs and housing for the poor black populations in the townships and countryside. In a succinct seven-page document, the ANC outlined plans to sell off state industries, tighten control of government spending, and observe strict fiscal policies.

It was inevitably attacked by the Left, the Communist Party, and the powerful union federation for doing nothing to create those vital jobs for the impoverished majority — who also happen to be the ANC's mass voters. Yet, when the plan came to the vote yesterday, only two of the 3,500 delegates opposed it.

This was typical of the mood of the congress, which is held every three years — lively debate and responsible voting, and this is the encouraging mood of the new South Africa as it prepares to bid a political farewell to Mandela and set off on its uncharted journey into the future. The ANC has proved itself truly capable of transforming itself from a revolutionary party into a responsible government. If other parties in the country could transform themselves as effectively into a responsible opposition and credible alternative government, South Africa could be more than confident in that unknown future.



## The ever-changing map

DAVID NEWMAN

The government spent much of the last week trying to reach a consensus on the map of the next withdrawal to be presented to the American administration. Like a schoolboy summoned to the principal's office, even the intransigent Netanyahu government is aware that this time the map has to find favor with the Americans, if it is not to feel the backlash of some serious presidential anger.

The time for delaying tactics has run out. The government knows that it has little choice but to start honoring its own commitments to further withdrawals if it is to retain any form of credibility whatsoever in the international community. The proposed maps — both the Ariel Sharon and the Yitzhak Mordechai versions — are just two more in a long series of maps which have been drawn up since the early days of the first Oslo agreement. The actual lines may change, but the overall picture remains similar. The basic considerations have not changed during the past four years.

Use territory as a bargaining pawn to make the Palestinians honor their own commitments. Offer them bones, but never enough for statehood, or even real autonomy.

Roll out the old security arguments in an attempt to justify holding on to the Jordan Valley, despite the peace agreement with Jordan that does not allow for any foreign troops on Jordanian soil. Create Palestinian enclaves and territorial ghettos, separated from each other by lateral east-west roads which will remain, again for security purposes, under Israeli control.

And, of course, don't touch the settlements. Such a move would bring the wrath of the right wing down on the government, perhaps even culminating in acts of violence surpassing those which took place under the Rabin and Peres administrations.

We tend to think of the borders of

a country as being relatively stable and unchanging. But the world's political map changes constantly. It was a German political geographer, Friedrich Ratzel, who, 100 years ago, first described the world of states as constituting some form of living, dynamic, and ever changing organism. His ideas were later used by the German school of geopolitics as a means of justifying the Nazi policies of lebensraum and territorial expansion. The result was that geopolitics in general, and Ratzel in particular, were shunned for the best part of four decades following the end of World War II.

But recently his works have come back into vogue. Last week, in Trieste in Italy, over 100 scholars attended a conference in which his works were reopened and reexamined. While not denying the extent to which some of his ideas were interpreted by the German policy-makers of the 1930s and '40s, the effect to which maps and territories undergo constant change, continually expanding and contracting, one at the expense of the other, was seen as having great relevance to the modern geopolitical world.

WHETHER as a result of military conflict or peace agreement, the borders of our political world continue to change at a much faster rate than we normally perceive simply by looking at a stationary map on a wall. In Israel-Palestine, this small region has undergone at least seven significant boundary changes during the course of this century.

From the time of the Ottoman Empire, through the British Mandate and the creation of Transjordan in 1921, partition and the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, territorial expansion in the Six Day War, territori-

al contraction as a result of the Camp David peace accords with Egypt and, more recently, partial withdrawal from parts of the West Bank, this region remains in constant territorial flux.

The West Bank remains one of the only territories on the world political map whose official status is categorized as "yet to be determined." It does not, at this stage, belong to anyone — it is not recognized as being under Israeli sovereignty, just as it was never recognized as falling under Jordanian sovereignty prior to 1967.

The fallacy of the many new world orders which have emerged during the past century is to suppose that imposed solutions will bring about long-term security and stability. This can only be achieved when both sides are directly part of the negotiating process and when each is prepared to understand the real needs of the other. Creating yet another map which, like the Oslo 2 map, consists of disconnected parts, much like a Swiss cheese, is not going to solve anything in the long term. It will not provide the self-determination and statehood required by the Palestinians, just as it is unlikely to provide the security required by Israeli citizens.

The heated arguments going on inside the Israeli cabinet will, even if implemented, only bring about more of the same. Neither of the proposed maps offers any real long-term solution to the conflict. It is time to move ahead, to move into the final-stage negotiations — as should have been the case as far back as September 1993 — and to stop prevaricating. It is time to draw up the map which will last, at least, for the second 50 years of Israeli statehood.

The writer is professor of political geography and director of the Humphrey Institute for Social Research at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

## PC cops

ALAN DERSHOWITZ

After years of complaining about the political correctness cops, I was recently busted by some zealots who purport to see ethnic slurs everywhere. My alleged slur occurred in the unlikely context of a discussion on *The Larry King Show* concerning the verdict in the Louise Woodward case.

Louise Woodward, you will recall, was the British au pair who was convicted by a jury in Cambridge, Mass., of murdering the baby for whom she was caring. In response to a question by King about the cultural implications of the case, I was careful to emphasize that "I don't know what the ethnic composition of the jury was."

In a subsequent show I went on to say, "I certainly don't want to suggest that this verdict was a result of any individual bias by a juror." I did speak about the ethnic makeup of the community and its possible impact on the case in precisely the way trial lawyers — both prosecutors and defense attorneys — always view such matters. I reported the existence of "anti-English hostility" in the community and the fact that we have a large Irish population. Indeed, any lawyer who ignores the ethnic composition of the community in which the case is tried is guilty of legal malpractice.

In a subsequent Larry King show I went on to elaborate on what I had said: "We have a long history in our city of antagonism to Britain, starting with the Revolution, and we have an Evacuation Day holiday which commemorates the day the British left. Certainly the dispute about Northern Ireland is something that doesn't make the British press very popular in the United States."

I challenge anyone to deny the truth of these statements or to demonstrate how they are either anti-Irish or anti-British. We must

**We have become altogether too quick to see ethnic slurs where none were intended**

be free to discuss issues of this kind openly and candidly without fear of being labeled anti-anything.

There are, in fact, ethnic conflicts in the world, and they do affect attitudes. If an Arab defendant were on trial in Brooklyn, N.Y., would it be antisemitic for his lawyer to express concern about possible anti-Arab bias within the Jewish community? Absolutely not.

If an Irish defendant were on trial in London, England, would it be anti-English to wonder if this were the best locale for him to get a fair trial? Of course not. Truth is never dangerous. What is dangerous is when the media whips up ethnic divisions by mischaracterizing factual statements as ethnic stereotypes.

In this case, the political correctness cops went bonkers. Mary McGroarty of the *Washington Post* accused me of suggesting "that anti-English hostility was present in the predominantly Irish-American jury pool," despite the fact that I explicitly said that I was not accusing the jurors in the Woodward case of any bias. A local TV editorial compared my statement to a joke made by Sen. John Kerry about the alleged feebleness of the Italian army.

My Irish friends, colleagues and relatives (my daughter-in-law is Irish) cannot understand what the fuss is all about. They recognize that the long history of anti-Irish actions by the British government — including the famine for which the current prime minister has apologized — has caused some understandable hostility. Were I Irish, I know I would feel some. As a Jew, I certainly felt some anti-English hostility during the time when England was keeping Jews out of Palestine. These are the realities with which lawyers must deal, if they are to avoid pitfalls.

We have become altogether too quick to see ethnic slurs where none were intended. In an interview with an Irish newspaper, I reported to the journalist that I had heard many anti-English jokes in an Irish bar we had both frequented. He had too, but he denied that they were slurs. My statement, however, was, in his view, a slur. It is easier to see a slur when you perceive yourself as its victim than as its perpetrator.

If I offended anyone, of course, I apologize. I intended nothing of the sort. But I worry that the political correctness cops may deter others from discussing the reality of ethnic tensions in an open and frank manner. That would not serve the interests either of truth or of fairness.

(United Feature Syndicate)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### GREAT ERROR

Sir — Except for the radical Left, Israelis do not accept the creation of a militarized "Palestine" capable of forging ties with extremist Arab countries. However, Yasser Arafat announces that he will proclaim a state after May 1999. Unfettered by the limitations of an agreement — not that he adheres to treaty obligations — Arafat will fully arm his state and conduct relations with Iraq, Iran, Libya and Sudan. Why then give him even more territory?

At present, Arafat has the fundamentals of a state: flag, anthem, stamps, passports, embryonic army, governmental units. The vital ingredient, land, is lacking.

With full PA control over only eight non-contiguous dots on the map of Judea, Samaria and some 100 square miles in Gaza, there is almost nothing to proclaim.

Should Arafat nonetheless persist in his aim, thereby fracturing the Oslo Accords, Israel will be free to annex all parts of the territories vital to its security interests. Palestinian Arabs remaining within those areas will continue to live there as resident aliens, citizens of Palestine.

Arafat intends to delay his proclamation for a year and a half in the expectation of Israeli cession of more land, either voluntary or as the result of US pressure.

(The American president and State Department, in a display of political stupidity rivaling the Bush-Department of State support for Saddam Hussein, broke with past policy and accepts the creation of a weak, dependent, radical, irredentist dictatorship, which will threaten Jordan and Israel and destabilize the region.)

Should Israel's prime minister and cabinet agree to attack more territory to Arafat's incipient state, they will commit one of the greatest errors in Israel's history.

BERNARD SMITH

Jerusalem.

## FROM OUR ARCHIVES

50 years ago: On December 21, 1947, *The Palestine Post* reported that the British government considered it necessary to warn the Arab states to consider carefully what steps they proposed to take in opposing partition of Palestine as voted upon by the UN. It was pointed out that any military upheaval in the Middle East, even if only directed against Palestine, would have gravest consequences for all Arab states. Jewish citizens in Arab countries would be henceforth considered to be citizens of the Jewish state and would thus be enemies of the Arab states, according to a draft resolution which was submitted to the Arab League.

The first two members of the UN Five-Nation Commission for the implementation of the partition of Palestine who had so far named their delegates were Denmark and Panama.

Arab Legion guards posted at Allenby Barracks shot and killed Jewish Settlement Police

Sergeant Max Schneider as he was walking towards the Talpott suburb of Jerusalem. An Arab looter was fatally injured by a booby-trap in the burned Commercial Center. A Government employee, Joseph Hirschfeld, 23, was stabbed by an Arab near the Jaffa Gate.

Looters were also shot and wounded by the Hagana when they attempted to reach and rob abandoned houses along the Tel Aviv-Jaffa border.

A number of Arabs were killed in Hagana attacks on villages near Ramle and Safed where Jewish convoys were previously attacked. The British government had announced that it did not consider that the arming of Egged and other bus drivers in Palestine would enhance the safety of road traffic.

In Haifa Ze'ev Mizrahi, 30, of Tiberias was killed when he walked inadvertently into the Arab quarter of the town. Shortly afterwards a Hagana unit went

into that quarter and engaged an Arab gang, inflicting casualties. Hassan Salameh, who led Arab gangs during the 1936 disorders and was previously known to have been parachuted down near Jericho on a Nazi mission during World War II, was reported to have joined the Arab forces. More Arab policemen had disappeared with their weapons.

25 years ago: On December 21, 1972, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that the Egyptian Chief of Staff, Lt.-Gen. Sa'ad Eddin Shazli, indicated that Egypt was planning for a long-term confrontation with Israel.

Four rockets launched from a timing device from a private car parked across the street hit the US Embassy in Beirut, causing substantial damage, but no casualties.

After weeks of balmy weather farmers welcomed the first heavy rain of this season.

Alexander Zvielli

## Ayatollah-land

DAVID WEINBERG

Have you ever heard of a place where "fundamentalists" and "gangs" in a "surging tide of extremism," "spit," "beat," "vandalize," "assault," "attack," "fight" and "brutally abuse" innocent people?

Are you familiar with a country (mention Afghanistan and Iran to hint at its nature) where "religious extremists" seek to "turn back the clock" (mention this three times for emphasis), notoriously practice "discrimination" (repeat four times), and otherwise "seek to impose," "imprison," "demand," "repress," "coerce" and "dictate" (nine repetitions) their "intolerant" views on a beleaguered society?

Well, welcome to the State of Israel according to the New Israel Fund (NIF). A country that "shows the world a repugnant face of Judaism," where it is not safe to walk down the street without being "set upon by a gang of angry, enraged men" — religious extremists running rampant.

No, I'm not making up all this hyperbolic, radical imagery. It's all in a direct-mail piece, pitching me for money, that I recently received from the NIF. The letter paints 12 times about "fundamentalists" and "extremists," and employs terms depicting violence 14 times over. Embellished on the mailing envelope exterior in bold letters is the following teaser: "Warning: There is no religious freedom for Jews in Israel." Just like cigarettes, think of Israel and think of cancer.

Another NIF fundraising ad that ran recently in American Jewish publications begins thus: "Christians living in Israel have more freedom to choose how to live a religious life than Jews." Didya know? Methinks that Mr. and Mrs. New Israel Fundraiser have gone much too far.

The NIF partnership between Israel and Diaspora Jews "in support of democracy, pluralism, tolerance and social justice" general-

ly is a wonderful thing. They've made a signal contribution to equality, government accountability and the culture of democratic advocacy in Israel. Consider and appreciate, for example, NIF's longstanding support for the Association for Civil Rights.

But to spuriously malign Israel as medieval, fundamentalist Iran in order to raise a buck is beyond the pale. The use of gross exaggeration and overwrought language laced with hate to boost organizational income — is just plain wrong. It's also not smart.

This paper has reported a twenty percent increase in NIF income over the past year, on the basis of the nasty and combative "religious freedom in Israel" campaign. Problem is that what's good for fundraising is not necessarily good for Israel or for Jewry. The end (religious pluralism) does not justify the means (bad-mouthing Israel).

The danger in this campaign is alienation. Who in their right mind wants to be associated with such a retrogressive, thuggish group? And what happens if the good guys don't succeed in stopping the alleged hordes of Jewish ayatollahs? What if the conversion bill is passed and Conservative and Reform rabbis are not accorded full and equal recognition by the Orthodox in Israel? What kind of relationship with Israel, if any, will NIF donors be left with?

In painting the situation in such dire and apocalyptic terms, the NIF is cutting away the limb it loves, and identification with Israel — upon which all pro-Israel Jewish community activity is based. Throwing the baby out with the bath water.

MANY years ago, the CIA was accused of similarly besmirching Israel, unintentionally, because it

was good for the campaign. In their ads, Israel was the poor, undeveloped, *nebechal* state, whose people lacked basic goods and life was a daily struggle. Later, Israel was the embattled, endangered victim-state, where bombs went off daily and people were dying. No wonder relatively few American Jews have ever come to visit or to live here. Who wants to live in a *pushka* (charity box) or visit a war zone?

But the NIF campaign themes are more corrosive, because they relate to the character of Israel; our soul that's being corrupted, as it were.

They're out to save us from rot, and will "banish," "struggle" and fight on until we realize just how good for Israel American-style religious pluralism really is.

Well, maybe and maybe not. For the sake of argument, and to take some of the absolutist, fundamentalist self-assurance out of NIF sails, let it be noted that American Jewish pluralism may not be the right model for this country. In maintaining Orthodoxy as the established religious stream, it is possible that Israelis are not so much being denied the great privilege of American-style religious pluralism; perhaps they're opting out of it. Great Britain has an established Church, and is no less a democracy for it.

So, be a little humble, our dear friends in the NIF, before imperially attempting to impose value-systems and religious standards on an unconvinced, even disinterested, Israeli society. Cool the heated rhetoric. And ask yourselves — what are the models of Israel-Diaspora partnership that will allow you to continue to love an Israel that doesn't sign onto one very particular definition of religious pluralism?

The writer comments on current affairs.



# The Chunnel challenge

## Book Review

By Bill Roerbach

**THE CHUNNEL: The Amazing Story of the Undersea Crossing of the English Channel**, by Drew Fetherston (Times Books, \$35, 404 pp.)

In *The Chunnel*, Drew Fetherston takes on a big subject: in fact, an enormous one: the construction of the Channel Tunnel, which now quite successfully (technically, if not financially) runs beneath the English Channel from England to France and back again, carrying long trains on continual runs.

A project like the Brooklyn Bridge is amazing enough: that type of engineering seems the work of a bygone era, a time before income taxes and trade unions, when banks took big risks on gargantuan dreams, and dreamers were wealthy enough to throw their own money into the deal as well. But the channel tunneling took place in the last 10 years, and the project doesn't just bridge a little river — it crosses under a body of water 21 miles wide.

Fetherston starts at what seems like the end, until you think about it: A French tunnel, chosen by lot, shakes hands with his English counterpart through the hole that appears when two tunnels meet. A heroic moment, the kind of drama books are made of.

Many pages later we will learn about all the men lined up behind the symbolic workers: much grand maneuvering has gone into the make-up of the queue of bankers and engineers and government people anxious to share the historic moment they've suffered for, anxious to be among the first to cross to France or England by land. Or through land, is more like it.

More than 600 men worked in the tunnel. The number above ground — politicians, local protesters, bankers, designers, railroad people, engineers, on and on — is many more than that. And the tunnelers' handshake isn't the end of anything. There's still the railway to construct, still problems of drainage to overcome, still political battles (Will rabid foxes from France cross to the British Isles? Will legions of French or other-wise foreign troops capture the tunnel and its mouth and mount an attack on Mother England?), still enormous and enormously daunting economic problems to conquer.

Fetherston, who is a reporter and columnist for *Newsday*, does a fine job with the history of the concept of a channel tunnel. The idea goes back a couple of hundred years, to a time when capture of the whole tunnel by one side or

the other really would have meant attack unprotected by the stormy waters of the channel. The debate that begins then continues till the day the modern tunnel is opened.

Over the years, bridges were proposed, and sunken tubes. Nutty drawings of air shafts and drilling platforms abounded. Railways gained the upper hand in the end, but some argued for a car tunnel, ignoring the fact that many drivers go bonkers in very long tunnels and simply have to stop. Ferry interests sabotaged parliamentary debate in England. Banking interests put the microscope to every engineering claim. The French were disdainful of the English obsession with safety. The English were contemptuous of the fastidious engineering of the French.

Fetherston makes sure the reader enters the battle for the modern tunnel well-educated in the problems it posed: Is the geological make-up of the channel bed workable or will faults cause leaks powered endlessly by the channel above? How will the two countries divide the cost and labor, and how will political strife be tamed? How does one design a tunnel to avoid the piston effect of trains pushing through, compressing columns of air? What if there is a fire on a train? With only one track in each direction, how to schedule faster, high-tech trains with slower, older trains? How does one finance a project that costs billions of pounds? And on and on.

The tunnel project used up the energy of dozens of managers. Coalitions of scores of banks formed and failed, re-formed and failed again. Votes and meetings and back-room deals never stopped as the tunnelers made their way toward each other under the water, the French in a squeaky clean environment like a good factory — something out of Jules Verne — the English in a drippy, gritty, seat-of-the-pants coal mine — something out of Dickens.

Fetherston does a fine job of getting all this riot of human effort to make sense. And even if he traces the banking maneuvers with such detail that it gets maddening, the engineering and actual tunneling provide riveting reading, probably because they provide the most interesting characters. And in a book about such a complicated and technical undertaking, characters are a blessing.

The challenge for Fetherston is to find someone who stays with the project long enough to make a useful character out of. There's no one great hero here. People come and go so fast that the reader begins to get dizzy. Which calm French *directeur* is this? Which irascible Englishman?

In the end, I was ready to cheer and celebrate when the first train got through.

I can only guess how very difficult researching and writing this book was; it must have been nearly as much work as the tunnel itself.

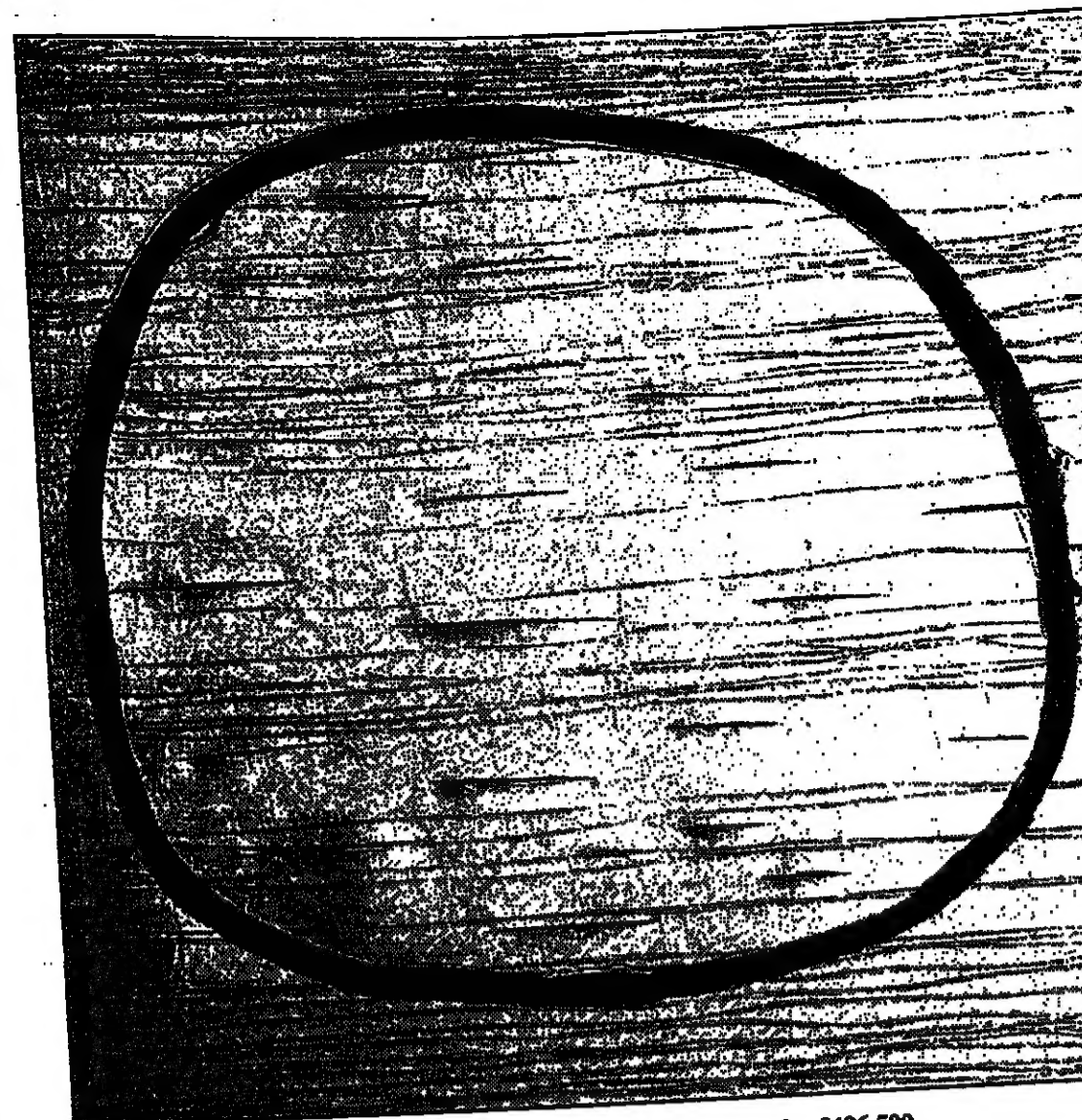
Thankfully, Fetherston gives us an account that is well worth our readerly burrowing. (Newsday)



Jean-Michel Basquiat: 'Red Savoy,' which set an auction record for this artist at \$353,500.



Leonard Bernstein's Bosendorfer piano sold at Sotheby's New York for an amazing \$387,500, many times its intrinsic value.



Lucio Fontana: 'Laguna di Venezia,' sold by Sotheby's London for £496,500.

## Bidders battled for Bernstein's belongings

**THE SALE** at Sotheby's New York on December 11 of the contents of the late Leonard Bernstein's home soared to a total of over \$1.1m., more than double its estimate. Bernstein's autographed Bosendorfer semi-grand piano, the top lot, went for a staggering \$387,500 after a long tussle between a phone bidder and a couple from Potomac, Maryland. The phone bidder won, but the underbidders were successful with another lot: a simple wood-and-cork baton from Bernstein's last Carnegie Hall concert, for which they paid \$12,650. It had an estimate of just \$150.

An ivory, gold, ruby and diamond-mounted baton that once belonged to Toscanini went for 18 times its estimate, at \$18,400. Top price for a painting was the \$74,000 paid for Konstantin Somov's oil of a carnival scene that had once belonged to Serge Koussevitzky. An indifferent portrait of Bernstein by Larry Rivers, estimated at best at \$5,000, went for \$17,250, while Leroy Neiman's Bernstein, with an estimate of barely \$2,000, brought \$6,325.

### AT THE AUCTIONS

BY NERI ROSEN

With the possible exception of the Somov, none of these lots were bought for their intrinsic value. The Bernstein charisma was still at work.

The sale was consigned by Bernstein's three children, with proceeds going to the Bernstein Education Through the Arts Fund. Following this column's account of the sale of Holocaust survivor Edith Hahn's archive by Sotheby's London, the Laniado Hospital has told *The Jerusalem Post* it wants to offer Hahn a free cataract operation.

As readers will recall, Hahn survived in Hitler's Germany after being helped to obtain an Aryan identity and marrying a Nazi Party member. This man and three other Germans risked their lives to help her. The story is documented in her wartime correspondence, sold with her papers for over \$150,000 at Sotheby's.

The letters detail this remarkable

story: how she averted Auschwitz, in which her mother perished, and escaped to Vienna, where she obtained a false Aryan identity from a sympathetic woman named Christine Denner. There, she married a man who was a Nazi party member, with whom she bore a daughter. She later divorced him and married a German refugee, after obtaining her documentation to become a judge. In 1984, after her husband's death, Hahn came to Israel. A year later, Christine Denner was honored as a Righteous Gentile.

Hahn's archive is being presented to Washington's Holocaust Museum.

AN AUCTION of works by Israelis from the holdings of the Safed Artists' Colony will take place at Safed's Ruth-Rimon Hotel on December 27. The works are on display at the Artists' Colony general exhibition. A catalog can be obtained by calling (06) 692-0087 or by faxing (06) 692-0081. Bids in sealed envelopes will be accepted in advance.

Among the artists represented,

some no longer living, are Frenkel, Frenkel, Holzman, Giladi, Tziffer, Romano-Glitzstein, Rosenthal, Balvani, Baser, Raviv, Roth, Ekstein, and Shafat.

AN ABSTRACTION by Lucio Fontana (1899-1968) representing the lagoon of Venice topped Sotheby's London sale of Contemporary Art this month, going for nearly £0.5m. (\$820,250).

Fontana, the best known of Italy's minimalists, was famed for slicing into or puncturing the surfaces of his canvases or paper. But this was more than gimmick; he was blessed with an uncanny

sense of composition. Both works by Fontana sold at this sale were composed of slashes, but the lagoon picture had them encircled by a Zen-like loosely painted oval. A small slashed Fontana appears in the current Small Format show at the Israel Museum.

This sale also set a world auction record for a painting by the late maverick outsider Jean-Michel Basquiat (1960-88), when his acrylic and oilstick canvas, *Red Savoy*, went for \$353,500. This artist — and reported AIDS victim — has become something of a cult figure and his work is, to my mind, incredibly overpriced.

## Sewage sludge to sugar cane

### Earthly Concerns



By D'VORA BEN SHAUL

India's eroded hillsides are being reforested by a recent innovation that recycles three notoriously hard-to-dispose-of items, to create new soil for growing trees and other crops.

By mixing sewage sludge, fly ash (the residue remaining after coal is burned) and composted weeds, agronomists have produced a highly fertile soil-like mixture that, when plowed into eroded soils, produces growth, which they report is many times better than what is achieved by fertilizing the same soil with chemical fertilizers.

The technique, first tried on a small scale in Canada, is now being applied to vast hillside areas in India where the soil has, over the years, become so eroded that it is almost useless.

The project managers say that in some areas, new forestation grew several times as fast as growth produced by conventional techniques. The sewage sludge and the composted weeds provide large amounts of nutrients, while the fly ash is rich in minerals such as zinc, cadmium, cobalt and magnesium. Combining them in proper proportions creates a matrix that provides everything the plants need.

But correct proportions is the critical factor. If fly ash is added too liberally, the heavy metals can build up in the stems and prevent



New fertilizing techniques enable farmers in India to reclaim otherwise eroded land. (World Bank)

the plants from absorbing enough water and the other nutrients. For this reason the new material has until now only been used on crops that are used for fibers, fuel and building materials. It has been especially successful for growing trees such as acacia and gum and for bamboo and cotton.

But even these crops are a boon for India, where wood is the principal fuel for millions and where there is a dearth of even the simplest lumber for building and furniture construction. Indeed, the

demand for fuel wood is the prime reason for the disappearance of the trees and the resultant erosion of the soil.

But the researchers have refined the matrix to the point where there is no reason not to use it for forage crops, another item in short supply in a country where oxen are still the principal working animal and mode of transport.

Remarkable success has been reported in growing sugar cane in soil that was previously too poor to support any crop at all. The first

experiments with vineyards and orchards for soft fruits began two years ago, and by now the results are plain. India is, for the first time in centuries, producing a rather impressive crop of soft fruit.

In addition to its manifest usefulness as a soil additive, producing the matrix performs an important recycling function. Sewage sludge and fly ash are two products that until now have been both useless and expensive to dispose of, while bulky weeds tax the disposal facilities of many areas.

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هذه امثلة لأصول



# One-stop health shopping for the elderly

By JUDY SEGEL-ITZKOVICH

Whoever is fortunate enough to grow old (consider the alternative!) will likely face a slew of red tape and a hodgepodge of different jurisdictions and requirements if institutionalization is required.

This statement is true not only for Israel — where our national health insurance system is starving for funds and in upheaval — but also in Canada, which has quite a healthy universal health insurance system and no private medicine.

Prof. Howard Bergman, director of geriatric medicine at McGill University and director of its affiliated Jewish General Hospital in Montreal, was invited by the Health Ministry to present his model to reduce the fragmentation of geriatric care. Bergman, who speaks some Hebrew and spent a month on sabbatical here two years ago to study our health system, believes that his model of "one-stop-shopping health care for the elderly" could be adapted to Israel as well. He was here recently to present his ideas — out-

lined in a recent *Canadian Medical Association Journal* article — to Health Ministry associate director-general Dr. Boaz Lev and various hospital audiences.

In an interview, Bergman explains that Canada's health system has suffered from large deficits and has even closed seven hospitals in the last few years. Growing costs have led to the push for more treatment in the community instead of more-expensive hospitals. The development of new technologies, such as laparoscopic surgery, from which recovery is quicker, and intravenous pumps that can be operated at home, have facilitated this change.

While most elderly people are healthy and able to function independently, about a fifth to a quarter of those over 65 have some form of disability, especially the "old-old" over 75. They are likely to suffer from acute as well as chronic conditions — congestive heart failure, Parkinson's disease, rheumatoid arthritis or dementia, for example — that can isolate them socially.

"A 45-year-old who gets pres-

monia will either get better in a few days or die, but an 85-year-old will get better, die or suffer a serious decline in functioning, requiring a long hospital stay or home help," Bergman says. "This is where the complications begin."

Both Israel and Canada have a network of social and medical geriatric services from government and voluntary organizations, but they are not coordinated and in many cases, their criteria for helping are contradictory. Bergman adds that the system suffers from a fragmentation of services, negative incentives and the absence of accountability. "No one authority is responsible for what happens, and old people and their families fall between the cracks."

Dr. Mark Clarfield, director of the Health Ministry's division of geriatric services (and a former Canadian) adds that for the frail elderly to get help, separate forums are required from his ministry, the National Insurance Institute (NII), the health funds and the municipalities, all of which have different criteria. If he is unable to perform a certain list of daily activities, such

as washing, feeding or dressing himself, the person comes under the authority of one jurisdiction, while if he can't perform a longer list, he is under the aegis of another.

Israel is, however, fortunate that its small size facilitates efforts by adult children to help their elderly parents, and our temperate climate makes it easier for the frail elderly to get out than in snow-bound Canadian winters. Israel also has the innovative Yad Sarah, for lending medical equipment and supplying various home services, plus Eshel-JDC and the Brookdale Institute for planning and initiating programs for the elderly. It also has only one agency (the NII) collecting health taxes and four health funds with a set basket of health services (at least for now).

In Canada, agencies involved in care for this sector include day hospitals, homecare and volunteer agencies, day centers, acute care and rehabilitation hospitals, old-age homes and family and specialist physicians.

In 1995, Bergman's McGill University Research Group on Integrated Services for the Elderly received funding from Quebec's Ministry of Health and Social Services to develop a model of integrated care for the frail elderly (called SIPA, a French acronym). His team prepared plans for a two-year demonstration project costing Can\$7.5 million (NIS 17 million) and including 700 frail elderly.

Bergman's community system model is based on primary care, with one authority responsible for a full range of health and social services for a defined population. It would provide case management, with clinical responsibility for the entire range of services provided. The public purse would pay for it on a capitation (per head) basis and services would be publicly managed. All primary and secondary medical and social services, prevention, rehabilitation, medication, technical aids and long-term care would be obtainable via a single authority in the community. An interdisciplinary team of health and social service professionals would evaluate patients' needs and deliver services. They would also try to rehabilitate patients, prevent their further decline in function and encourage the family to participate in care and in taking decisions affecting care. The elderly would enroll in the SIPA center within



About a quarter of those over 65 have some form of chronic disability, which can isolate them socially. (R. Nowina)



The Canadian model proposes one authority responsible for a full range of health and social services, rather than the fragmentation of services which exists now. (Israel: Hersh)

their geographical area, but could be transferred to a neighborhood SIPA center if dissatisfied; thus, the centers would aim to please or lose funding for fleeing patients, and they would not be allowed to overrun their budgets.

Bergman notes that it's rare for proposed changes in health care to be preceded by a demonstration project (Israel's national health insurance, for example, went into effect without any trial to learn from mistakes). "We don't have a target date for implementation in a part of Montreal, but we are guardedly optimistic that we'll be

able to launch our pilot program. Then we'll set up control groups to compare how our system functions, how patients benefit and how costs go to frail elderly in the existing system."

Clarfield adds that "no technique can be wholly transplanted from one country to another. There have to be adaptations. But we are going to watch Prof. Bergman's experiment closely. There are important elements that could be translated to Israeli society. It seems to me that there is no other solution for the elderly. We want to give them the best quality of life possible —

although this does not mean we want to extend life artificially."

In the meantime, the Health Ministry's geriatric services division has taken a first step to unify forms and assistance criteria for the NII, the ministry and other authorities dealing with the elderly. "Geriatricians," Clarfield concludes, "are optimists by nature. That's because we deal with a population who present major problems and we try to help them function better. So I am optimistic that Israel, too, will work to reduce fragmentation in geriatric services."

## Lucrative market in Russia for American cigarettes

By ANNA DOLGOV

Skyscrapers, white sandy beaches, gorgeous women smiling seductively as they step out of stretch limos — the billboard images are all over Russia's streets. But the slogans like "Total Freedom" or "Rendezvous with America" aren't advertising foreign travel destinations or wilderness adventure clubs. They're touting American cigarette brands like Winston and Marlboro.

With fewer people smoking in the US and Europe, Western tobacco companies are expanding aggressively in the east to make up for lost sales at home. And American cigarette manufacturers have found a lucrative market in Russia, where an estimated 50 percent to 80 percent of people are smokers, consumers are hungry for all things Western and tobacco taxes are low.

Nearly nonexistent controls on advertising have given cigarette manufacturers a free hand to use sales and marketing methods that draw frowns in other countries. As far as advertising is concerned, almost anything goes in Russia. Tobacco firms stage parties for Russian teenagers, offering free entry if the partygoer buys one or more packs of cigarettes. At shows and presentations, such as a fashion extravaganza held in Moscow recently, young women with trays of cigarettes walk around the audience offering free smokes.

"In all civilized countries they passed this stage a long time ago, and have long since established restrictions on the advertising of tobacco products," said Tatyana Kamardina, senior research at the Institute for Prophylactic Medicine in Moscow. Russia actually has relatively strict advertising laws on the books — but no functioning legal or monitoring system to enforce them.

TV tobacco ads were banned in 1995. But direct marketing and billboard advertising have increased to make up for the loss. "Tobacco companies have a huge amount of money, and they spend it on converting people," Kamardina said. A former party organizer, Maximilian Friedman, said his experience with teenagers buying cigarettes to get in for free was so unenviable that he quit his job.

But while doctors and health-minded individuals may protest, others consider smoking a relatively innocent indulgence, especially compared to the binge drinking, poor diet and frequent accidents that kill many Russians.

Rampant unemployment and low wages — which frequently go unpaid for as long as six months — also make the hazards of smoking fade compared to the struggle of getting by from one day to the next. Although the harmful effects of smoking are well known in Russia, they haven't really struck a chord in a country where most people are just looking for some comfort in their lives.

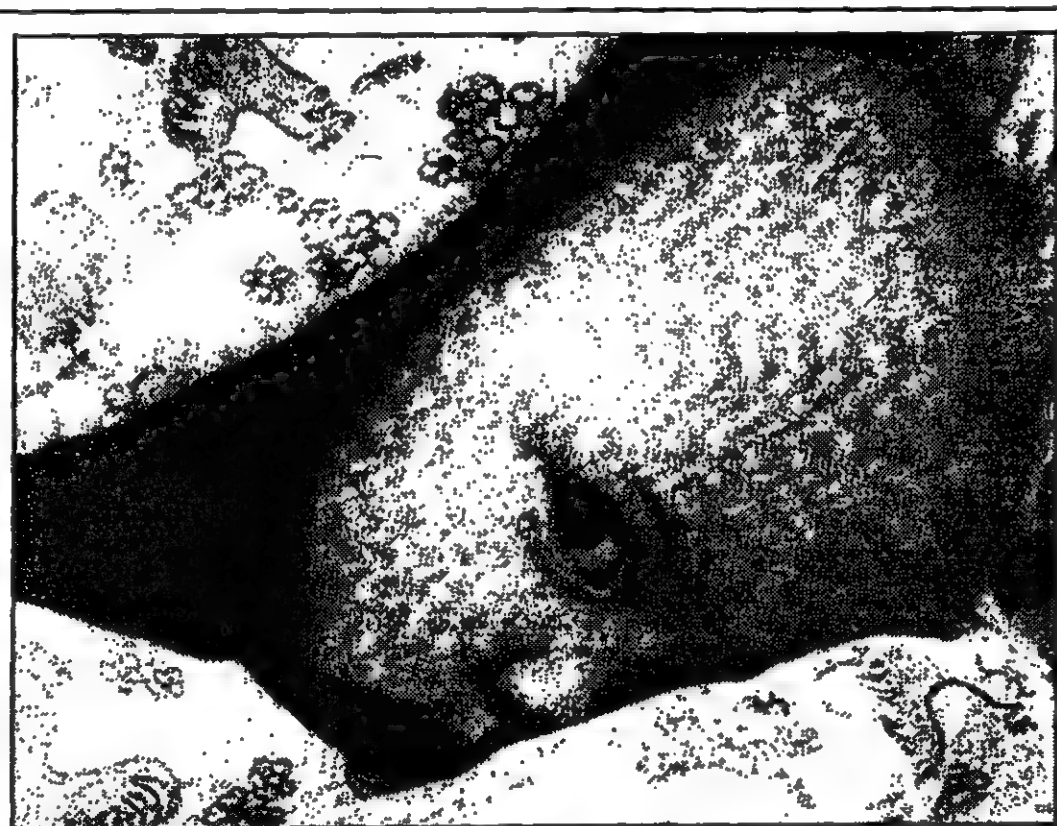
"Smoking in Russia is more than smoking," said comedian Igor Ugodnikov on his recent late-night TV show. "It's not about the ruinous craving for tobacco but about the constant stress and upheavals. You open a fresh newspaper and immediately you open a new pack. And like that, on the nerves, day after day, pack after pack. Here, just recently, during the stock crisis, one banker got so nervous he smoked a whole stack of dollars by mistake."

Russians buy more than 11 billion packs of cigarettes a year, of which 4 billion are imports, said Vladimir Akysanov, spokesman for British American Tobacco in Moscow. He could not say how much the market was worth, but cigarette prices rarely exceed \$2 a pack.

"In Russia, the tendency is clearly in favor of American blends," Akysanov said.

The only visible signs of resistance to the incursion of American tobacco have come from Russian cigarette makers, which are unhappy about foreigners reaping profits on their turf. Russia's leading tobacco company recently started putting up billboards adorned with the slogan "Strike Back" and a picture of Yava cigarettes hovering like a spaceship over New York.

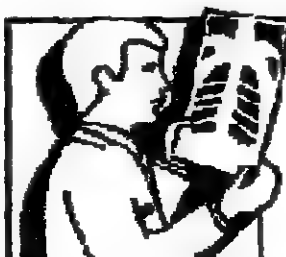
While the companies fight over sales, more and more Russians are picking up the habit. Surveys indicate the number of smokers is growing 1-2 percent a year even as the overall population declines. Between 40-80% of Russian males are smokers, according to various polls cited by Kamardina, and about 50% of females use cigarettes. (Associated Press)



Careful watching and follow-up of ear infections in babies is better than automatically giving antibiotics. (Lisa Pleslow)

## When infection strikes baby, don't rush to use antibiotics

Health Scan



By Post Health Reporter

Just the sight of a baby crying and pulling on its ear is enough to send parents to the doctor for a middle-ear examination and antibiotics. But now researchers increasingly believe that leaving such infections alone can be as effective as treating them with medication.

A recent study that appeared in the *British Medical Journal* supports this. The researchers found that giving a placebo had the same effect in most cases as giving the antibiotic. Overuse of antibiotics is known to cause resistance to them in bacteria, requiring the development of newer and stronger antibiotics. Writing on the BMI study in

the *Israel Journal of Family Practice*, family medicine specialist Dr. Andee Matalon of Tel Aviv University's Sackler School of Medicine and Kupat Holim Clalit says antibiotics are effective "only slightly" in preventing pain in a small group of children, two to seven days after treatment begins. To help one child to escape pain from an ear infection, 17 others get antibiotics as well.

"This study reminds us that simple infections in children usually pass by themselves," he writes. Careful watching and follow-up are better than automatically giving the medication.

He notes that countries like Finland and Denmark, where doctors don't give antibiotics for ear infections, have no more deaf children, mastoiditis and ear operations than the US and Israel, where antibiotic use is high. Matalon urges his colleagues to be more careful when dispensing antibiotics.

**PROTECTING BABIES**

British scientists believe they can prevent babies from developing severe disabilities such as cerebral palsy (CP) or blindness

caused by oxygen starvation of the brain cells during a difficult birth. The chief researcher, Dr. John Wyatt of University College in London, reported at a recent pediatrics meeting in Washington, that a water-chilled helmet can prevent brain damage in infants.

According to a report in *Pediatrics and New Scientist*, lowering the temperature of the brain by a few degrees Celsius can prevent the chemical reactions that lead to the death of the brain cells' mitochondria (which supply energy).

But since it's dangerous to cool the whole body — hypothermia can harm the heart and lungs — the scientists developed a snug cap with fine plastic tubes sewn in; water cooled to about three degrees below normal body temperature is circulated through the tubes.

"We believe cooling the brain can stop the process of brain damage that occurs in the first 24 hours after birth," said Wyatt. Brain scans he conducted established that the damage occurs between 24 and 48 hours after delivery.

## Eating your way to hormonal balance

By PATRICIA WEISOL

Can menopausal women eat their way to hormone balance? Several new cookbooks featuring phyto-estrogens as a main course and a recently announced study showing that plant-based estrogen does improve bone density of post-menopausal women, makes one wonder.

Consider this: Researchers at the University of California at San Francisco have found that Estratab, an estrogen derived from soy and yams now prescribed for hot flashes, also improved bone density in women. It works in half the dose and without the ill effects cited by patients taking the most commonly prescribed animal-based estrogen.

Harry Genant, director of the osteoporosis research center at UCSF, says plant sources may attract women who have stopped hormone-replacement therapies because of side effects. The study coincides with a spate of cookbooks aimed at post-menopausal women.

They feature plants naturally high in estrogen, including yucca, blood root and leafy greens, and dishes such as "Mrs. Kale Gets Steamed" and "Mood Swing Anti-Pasto."

"You are going to see more and more of this huge wave of soy products and soy cookbooks," says Mary Ann Gilderbloom, senior publicist for Chronicle Books, publisher of *The Hot Flash Cookbook: Delicious Recipes for Health and Well-Being Through Menopause*, by Cathy Luchetti.

Feeding this phenomenon, she explains is the generation of women now turning 50 (which includes Hillary Clinton) who are aware of breast cancer and osteoporosis. Also, younger women are watching their grandparents and parents suffer from osteoporosis and say "not me," Gilderbloom says.

Here are two other new cookbooks for the menopausal women: *Recipes for Change*, by Lisa DeAngelis and Molly Sipie (Dutton/Penguin Books); *Savoring the Day: Recipes and Remedies to Enhance Your Natural Rhythms*, by Judith B. Hurley (Morrow Books).

So should menopausal women be rejiggering their diets? The *Baltimore Sun* asked Trudy Bush, professor of epidemiology at the

University of Maryland Medical School, some questions about hormone replacement.

Bush is an expert on estrogen who is studying hormone replacement's use in preventing heart disease.

**Q.** Can people eat their way to balanced hormones?

**A.** I don't think so, but it would be fun trying. What's been really hot are plant estrogens. These are estrogens from soy products. I don't have personal experience, but a study by one of my colleagues has found them to be fairly effective at doing all the things animal estrogen does.

The problem is, they occur in such low quantities in food you can't get enough by simply eating them.

**Q.** What's diet got to do with menopause? Should we start cooking with plants that have estrogen?

**A.** For some women it may help. For those with severe symptoms, like hot flashes and night sweats, they probably can't take in enough soy protein. If symptoms are not severe, a healthy diet is always good. People want to control things they don't have control over and aging is one of them. I have seen no data that shows any diet can delay bone loss or alleviate menopausal symptoms. I would qualify that. An adequate calcium intake may be very important in preserving bone mass.

The idea that women can cook themselves out of menopause is wonderful and great, but I advise them to take hormones, too — it's the most effective thing we have.

**Q.** How many types of estrogen are there?

**A.** Natural and synthetic. The natural are those in nature, human or animal or plant. Most estrogen now is taken from urine of pregnant horses.

**Q.** Do patients have a choice? **A.** Yes. Synthetic hormones are used in birth control pills. They are a little more potent, but cheap. I don't think it matters much. The major side effect with estrogen is uterine bleeding.

**Q.** Is every woman a candidate for hormone replacement? **A.** Every woman should consider it because the benefits are very marked and the risk minimal.

**Q.** How effective are over-the-counter hormone replacement therapies?

**A.** Women should consult their doctors. (The Baltimore Sun)



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## Pacers top Pistons despite Stackhouse's hot debut

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The Indiana Pacers survived a 19-point fourth-quarter outburst and 33 points overall by Jerry Stackhouse in his Detroit Pistons debut as the Pacers won 98-90 on Friday night for their fifth straight victory.

Stackhouse, who was traded from the Philadelphia 76ers to the Pistons on Thursday along with Eric Montross and Aaron McKie, Theo Ratliff and a conditional draft pick, topped his previous season-high by one point and almost singlehandedly brought Detroit back from a late 19-point deficit.

**Raptors 92, Bucks 91**  
Damon Stoudamire scored a career-high 36 points as Toronto ended a franchise record 11-game home losing streak.

Stoudamire, who added eight assists and seven rebounds, brought one of the most vocal crowds of the season to their feet, hitting a 3-pointer to put the Raptors up 92-91 with 59.2 seconds to play.

**Wizards 106, Hornets 86**  
With defense and hustle and Juwan Howard's 26 points, the Wizards improved to 7-0 at the MCI Center by snapping the Hornets' five-game winning streak.

**Knicks 104, Cavaliers 77**  
Patrick Ewing had 22 points and 10 rebounds as New York snapped a six-game road losing streak.

The experienced Knicks humbled Cleveland, one of the league's promising young teams, and made Shawn Kemp a non-factor. Kemp fouled out with 5 minutes left, contributing 10 points on 2-for-9 shooting and 5 rebounds.

Allan Houston had 13 points for New York, and John Starks came off the bench to score 13, including a 3-pointer at the half-time buzzer that seemed to set the tone for the second half.

**Lakers 98, Hawks 96**  
Elden Campbell scored eight of his 18 points in the final 6:55, leading Los Angeles to a road victory that snapped the Hawks' four-game winning streak.

The Lakers banded the Hawks only their third home loss in 13 games before a crowd of 25,288 — second largest in the Georgia Dome this season.

Kobe Bryant led the Lakers with 19 points.

**Heat 91, 76ers 84**  
Tim Hardaway had 22 points and a season-high 14 assists as visiting Miami broke a two-game losing streak.

**Rockets 116, Kings 98**  
Kevin Willis scored 28 points, including six straight late in the fourth quarter during a 20-7 run as Houston notched a home win.

**Trail Blazers 96, Grizzlies 91**  
Isiah Rider scored 17 of his 31 points in the final quarter and Brian Grant added 19 and 14

rebounds as Portland halted a three-game losing streak.

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Miami	16	8	.667	—
Orlando	16	9	.640	1/2
New York	15	10	.600	1 1/2
New Jersey	13	10	.565	2 1/2
Boston	11	12	.478	4 1/2
Washington	12	14	.462	5
Philadelphia	6	17	.261	9 1/2
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	19	6	.760	—
Indiana	16	8	.667	2 1/2
Charlotte	15	8	.652	3
Chicago	15	9	.625	3 1/2
Cleveland	15	9	.625	3 1/2
Memphis	11	13	.458	7 1/2
Detroit	11	15	.423	8 1/2
Toronto	3	22	.120	16
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	14	7	.667	—
Utah	15	9	.625	1/2
San Antonio	14	10	.583	1 1/2
Minnesota	10	13	.435	5
Vancouver	9	17	.346	7 1/2
Dallas	5	19	.208	10 1/2
Denver	2	21	.086	13
Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Seattle	20	5	.800	—
LA Lakers	19	6	.760	1
Phoenix	14	6	.692	4 1/2
Portland	14	9	.609	5
Sacramento	8	17	.308	12
Golden State	5	17	.227	13 1/2
LA Clippers	5	20	.200	15

Thursday's results: Utah 85, Orlando 75; Phoenix 87, Dallas 75; Seattle 119, Denver 104; LA Clippers 82, Golden State 78.

## Hamed retains title with KO

NEW YORK (AP) — Prince Naseem Hamed landed on his feet when he somersaulted over the ropes entering the ring. It wasn't long after the bell rang Friday night that he found himself on his backside.

And much to the delight of a Madison Square Garden crowd of 11,954, the British-born Arab found himself in a real fight against Kevin Kelley.

Each of the left-handers was knocked down three times before Hamed won by knockout at 2:27 of the fourth round and retained the WBO featherweight championship.

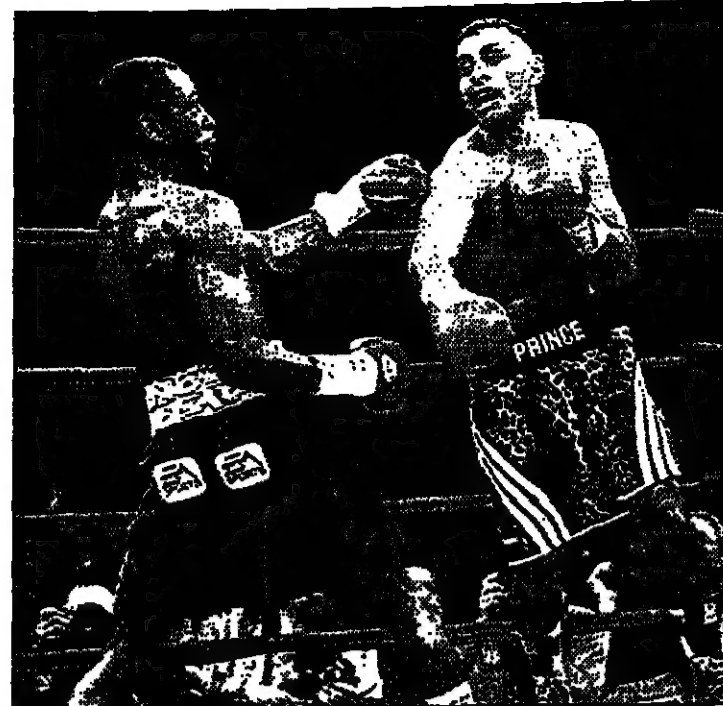
Hamed, who made a 10-minute entrance to loud music, spotlights and a shower of confetti, was cocky to the end.

"I proved myself," said Hamed, who was born in Sheffield, England, where his parents emigrated from Yemen. "I'm 29-0 (with 27 knockouts) and still champion of the world. I told him he's the best I've faced and I was the best he's faced and he agreed."

After three rounds, two of three judges had Kelley ahead by 1 point.

A computer analysis of the fight credited Hamed with landing 81 of 184 punches and Kelley 72 of 154. In another title match, Kennedy McKinney knocked down Junior Jones and stopped him in the fourth round to win the WBO super bantamweight championship.

Before the main event, the cocky



PRINCE OF PUNCH — Britain's Prince Naseem Hamed (r) lands a right cross which sent the US's Kevin Kelley to the canvas for a 4th-round knockout in their WBO featherweight title fight.

Hamed said, "There's no way I can get upset, there's no way I can get beat." Kelley almost found a way.

The two left-handers shoved each other and talked to each other during the introductions. When the bell rang, they went out to beat each other.

Late in the first round, Hamed, who weighed the class limit of 126lbs (57.2kg), almost put Kelley down with two rights to the head, but Kelley, 125lbs (56.9kg), came back with an overhand right that put Hamed down for a count of 6 as a crowd of about 11,954 came roaring to its feet.

In the second round, Kelley landed a left and Hamed's gloves touched the floor, making it a knockdown. He stood up quickly and was nailed again by a right and he touched the floor again.

Referee Benji Estaves scored it only one knockdown.

Then Hamed landed an overhand right that dropped Kelley for a 4-count.

The two men shook each other on a couple of occasions in the third round and then drove the crowd wild in the fourth.

They mixed it up early in the round and then two right hooks put Kelley down at 1:31. He got up at 7 and nailed Hamed with a left and again the Prince's gloves touched the floor, making it a knockdown.

There was no doubt at this point, however, that Hamed's punches were the more powerful and he landed a right hook that dropped Kelley on his hands and knees. The 31-year-old New Yorker struggled up as Estaves reached the count of 10 and the fight was over.

"Look at me straight up. I have dash, I have the heart of a lion," Hamed said. "Even though I got hit with some good shots, I came back. I wanted to fight and when it came right down to what you could give, he couldn't take it." Hamed made \$2.5 million.

Kelley, a former WBC featherweight champion, got \$550,000 as he lost for the second time against 47 wins and two draws.

## Sabres shut out Montreal; Wings stop Devils' streak

BUFFALO (AP) — Donald Audette scored the only goal and Dominik Hasek made 42 saves for his fourth shutout in the past month as the Buffalo Sabres defeated the Montreal Canadiens 1-0 Friday night.

**Red Wings 5, Devils 4**  
Dong Brown got his first career hat trick, including the winning goal with 7:21 left, as host Detroit ended New Jersey's seven-game unbeaten streak.

Nicklas Lidstrom scored two goals for the Red Wings, while rookie Yan Golubevsky had two assists as Detroit snapped a four-game winless streak.

**Avalanche 3, Penguins 3**  
Adam Deadmarsh had a goal

and an assist as host Colorado came back from a two-goal deficit to the Pittsburgh.

Joe Sakic and Peter Forsberg had goals for the Avalanche, who tied their 11th game of the season.

**Coyotes 6, Mighty Ducks 2**  
Jeremy Roenick tied a career high with four assists and Michel Petit, Keith Tkachuk and John Slaney scored power-play goals in the first period as Phoenix won on the road.

**NHL celebrates 80th year**  
The NHL celebrated its 80th anniversary Friday in New York with little fanfare, looking far different than the day it opened.

There were 12 players in uniform for each team per game when

the four-team league began competition December 19, 1917.

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	T	Pts
New Jersey	23	10	4	104
Philadelphia	19	7	4	99
Washington	15	13	7	97
N.Y. Islanders	14	15	3	93
N.Y. Rangers	10	15	11	91
Florida	12	18	5	88
Tampa Bay	7	21	5	80
Northeast Division				
	W	L	T	Pts
Pittsburgh	18	10	4	99
Montreal	18	14	4	99
Boston	16	13	6	98
Ottawa	15	16	4	87
Carolina	13	17	5	91
Buffalo	11	16	6	81

Thursday's results: Florida 4, Washington 0; Ottawa 3, Carolina 2; Boston 2, Philadelphia 2; New Jersey 4, St. Louis 4; Dallas 2, Calgary 1; Vancouver 0, San Jose 0; Los Angeles 5, Toronto 2.

replacing the National Hockey Association as the pro league.

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Central Division				
	W	L	T	Pts
Dallas	23	9	4	104
Detroit	20	7	7	118
St. Louis	20	12	4	105
Phoenix	14	15	6	95
Toronto	11	17	5	75
Chicago	10	17	7	72
Pacific Division				
	W	L	T	Pts
Colorado	18	8	4	110
Los Angeles	13	14	6	97
San Jose	13	18	4	87
Anaheim	12	17	6	80
Edmonton	11	16	8	80
Vancouver	11	19	5	77
Calgary	10	19	7	77

## England win Sharjah final

SHARJAH, UAE (AP) — Graham Thorpe and Matthew Fleming batted England to a superb 3-wicket victory over West Indies in Friday's final of the Champions Trophy cricket tournament.

Thorpe, who hit a flawless 66 not out off 74 balls, and Fleming, a crucial 34 from 27 deliveries, made a seventh wicket stand of 70 runs to steal the game from West Indies.

It was England's first one-day title in 10 years. The players hugged each other after Dougie Brown hit the winning boundary off Courtney Walsh.

England, chasing West Indies' 235 for 7, were struggling at 165 for 5, when left-hander Thorpe and Fleming took over. Their sensible play steered England to 239 for 7 in 48.1 overs.

The victory vindicated English skipper Adam Hoolioake's confidence at the beginning of the tournament and proved the value of a specialist one-day team.

"I can't describe how happy we are at this moment

and this is a good start for a long term strategy for the World Cup" next year, said Hoolioake.

England, which won the \$40,000 first prize, did not lose a single game in this round-robin tournament, which included West Indies, India and Pakistan.

Thorpe, who took the man of the match award for his unbeaten 66, also praised Fleming: "We needed a few big overs and, without Fleming, it would have been impossible."

The West Indies threw the match away through their fielders' fumbling and their wayward bowling, which resulted in 31 extras, including nine no-balls.

Fleming, who hit three boundaries, was run out with just one run left for England's victory.

Thorpe, who hit 5 boundaries, helped keep England in the game after the fall of quick wicket opener Alec Stewart's dismissal for 51 from 67 balls.

Earlier when fielding, medium pacerman Fleming grabbed two wickets in one over and helped England recover to hold the West Indies to 235 for seven.

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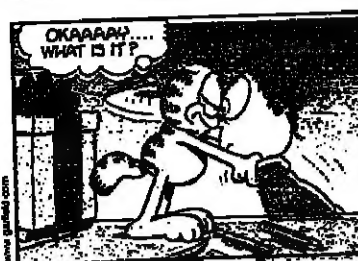
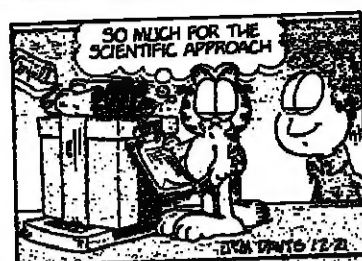
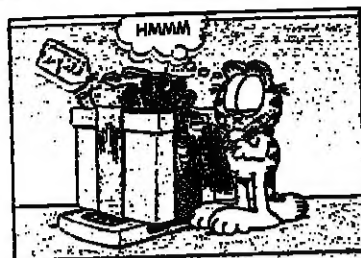
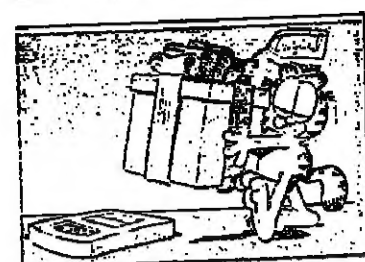
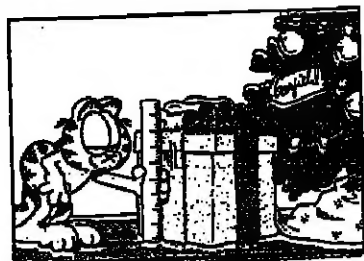
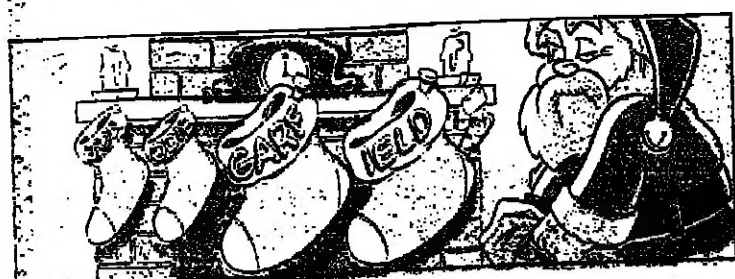
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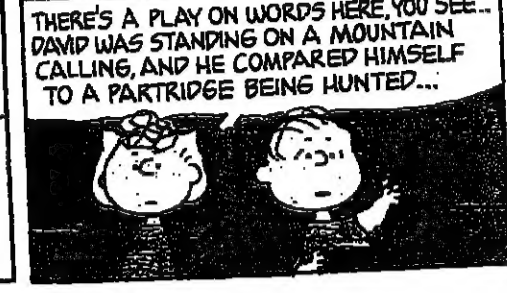
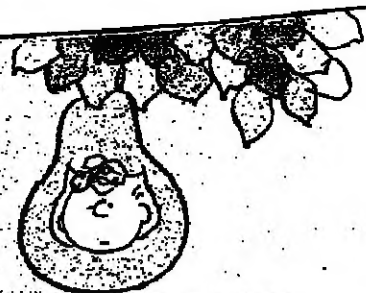
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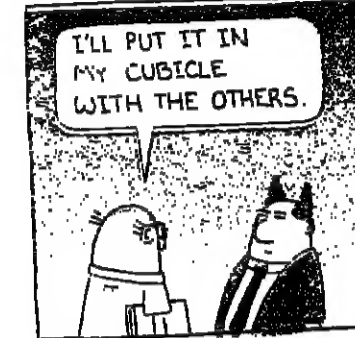
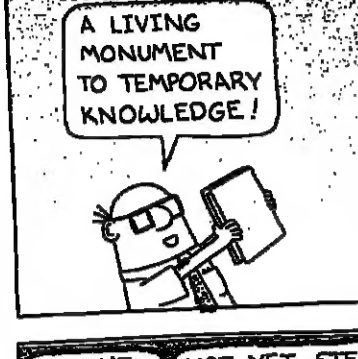
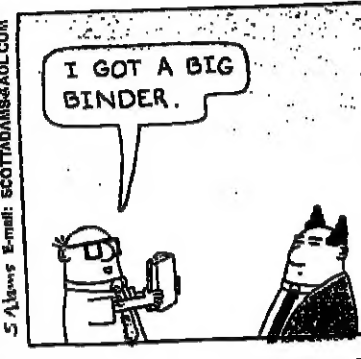


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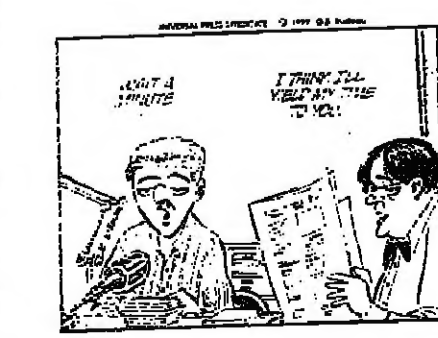
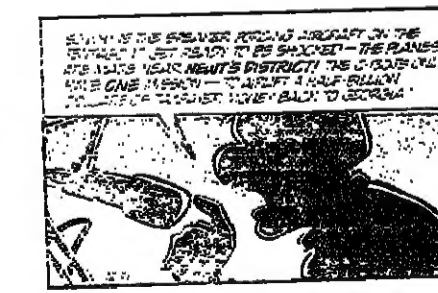


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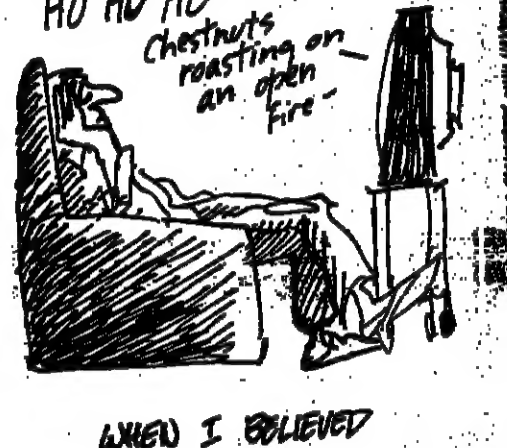


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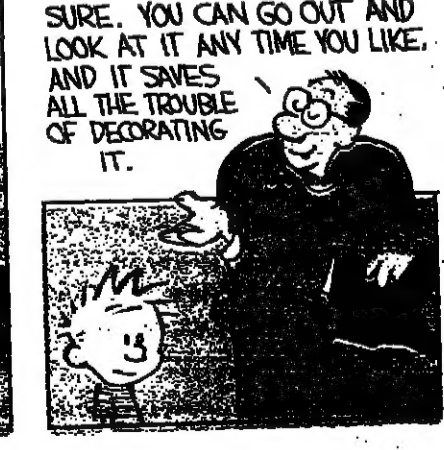
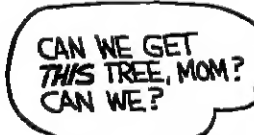


FEIFFER



Calvin and Hobbes

by Watterson



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## Inside

## England cricketers win crown in Sharjah

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Sports Editors  
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

Packers' Tyrone Davis scores 1st career TD. (Reuters)

## Packers win season finale

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — The only mission the Green Bay Packers didn't accomplish yesterday was getting Dorsey Levens the club single-season rushing record.

They achieved all their other goals in a 31-21 victory over the Buffalo Bills, the most significant of which was keeping Brett Favre & Co. healthy.

In a regular season finale that meant nothing for the playoff picture, the Packers (13-3) kept their momentum going — despite a clumsy second half by their subs — in stretching their winning streak at Lambeau Field to 26.

They even made history. Flanker Robert Brooks joined Antonio Freeman in giving the Packers two 1,000-yard receivers for the first time in their 78-year history.

Levens fell 39 yards short of Jim Taylor's 35-year-old record of 1,474 rushing yards. Playing into the fourth quarter, Levens gained 71 yards on 22 carries. He had 25 more yards wiped out by two holding penalties.

Fielder to Angels

NEW YORK (AP) — Cecil Fielder has signed with the Anaheim Angels. Tim Lincecum has returned to the New York Yankees and Harold Baines has re-signed with the Baltimore Orioles.

Also, Florida sent infielder Kurt Abbott to Oakland for right-hander Eric Ludwick. And Texas dealt shortstop Benji Gil to the Chicago White Sox for right-hander Al Levine and left-hander Larry Thomas.

## Late scores

NHL — Rangers 2, Lightning 2.  
NBA — Bulls 100, Nets 92.

## Blackburn move closer to Reds

## Betar stay top at mid-season

By ORI LEWIS  
and ANMANIAH DE VRIES

Twelve lucky Sportoto punters share this weekend's bumper NIS 20 million jackpot following a round of National League soccer matches which will be remembered for little more than the mundane statistics which they produced.

At the season's halfway stage, a clear pattern seems to be evolving, as Betar Jerusalem manage — albeit with unimpressive showings of late — to hold onto the league lead, slightly ahead of Hapoel Tel Aviv.

The National League now takes a one-month break with matches resuming on the weekend of January 24.

Betar beat Maccabi Petah Tikva with the aid of an own goal by Guy Mishal. Had they not had that good fortune, the Betars might have found themselves overtaken by Hapoel Tel Aviv, who earlier in the day easily beat lowly Hapoel Ashkelon 1-0 through a 13th-minute goal from Krazimir Muskal.

In other matches, third-placed Hapoel Haifa drew 1-1 away at Beit She'an, while Maccabi Haifa consolidated fourth place with a 2-0 home win over now desperate Hapoel Beersheba. Bnei Yehuda lost 1-0 at the Hativka Quarter to Rishon LeZion, putting coach Viko Hadad under pressure, with Bnei Yehuda boss Gad Sulami saying he will appoint an assistant to Hadad in order to try and change the club's fortunes.

Maccabi Tel Aviv scored an important 2-1 win at Ironi Ashdod, Eli Driks heading twice to bring the side back from an early 1-0 deficit. It spoiled Alon Hazan's farewell match for Ashdod before he leaves for England this week where he is to join Ronnie Rosenthal at Second Division Watford.

Motti Kalkon gave Hapoel Petah Tikva a 1-0 win over Hapoel Jerusalem in the capital. The home team missed many chances to score as they see their good start to the season fade away and the leaders running away from them. Maccabi Herzliya and Hapoel Kfar Sava shared the spoils in a 1-1 draw between the two mid-table clubs.

Mac PT 0, Bet. Jerusalem 1. The champions were disappointed this week to discover that their newly-acquired star, Reuven Atar, will be out for the rest of the season through injury, and without key playmaker Yossi Abukasis, who was suspended, the yellow and blacks have managed to stay top only thanks to a bit of luck.

Throughout the first half the sides looked evenly matched, with the young attacking Petah Tikvans showing that they have what it takes to give Betar a run.

The match ended with Betar happy to sit on their lead, while Petah Tikva tried to mount attacks, but lacked the requisite firepower.

Toto Line  
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Toto Teke 1, 6, 9, 10, 13, 17, 18.

National League  
Hapoel Herzliya 1, Hapoel Kfar Sava 1; Hapoel Tel Aviv 1, Hapoel Ashkelon 0; Hapoel Jerusalem 0, Hapoel Petah Tikva 0; Maccabi Haifa 2, Hapoel Beersheba 0; Bnei Yehuda 0, Ironi Rishon LeZion 1; Hapoel Beit She'an 1, Hapoel Haifa 1; Maccabi Petah Tikva 0, Betar Jerusalem 1; Ironi Ashdod 1, Maccabi Tel Aviv 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Betar Jerusalem	15	9	6	0	36	16	33
Hapoel Tel Aviv	15	9	5	1	35	16	32
Hapoel Haifa	15	8	5	2	26	15	29
Maccabi Haifa	15	8	3	4	27	17	27
Hapoel Petah Tikva	15	8	3	4	23	17	27
Ironi Ashdod	15	7	3	5	21	19	23
Hapoel Kfar Sava	15	6	3	6	19	20	21
Hapoel Jerusalem	15	5	6	4	18	19	21
Maccabi Herzliya	15	4	6	5	20	19	18
Ironi Rishon LeZion	15	4	5	6	18	22	17
Maccabi Tel Aviv	15	4	4	7	16	19	16
Hapoel Petah Tikva	15	3	7	5	10	14	16
Hapoel Ashkelon	15	3	3	9	13	24	12
Bnei Yehuda	15	2	5	8	12	20	11
Hapoel Beit She'an	15	2	5	8	13	24	11
Hapoel Beersheba	15	1	5	9	15	31	8

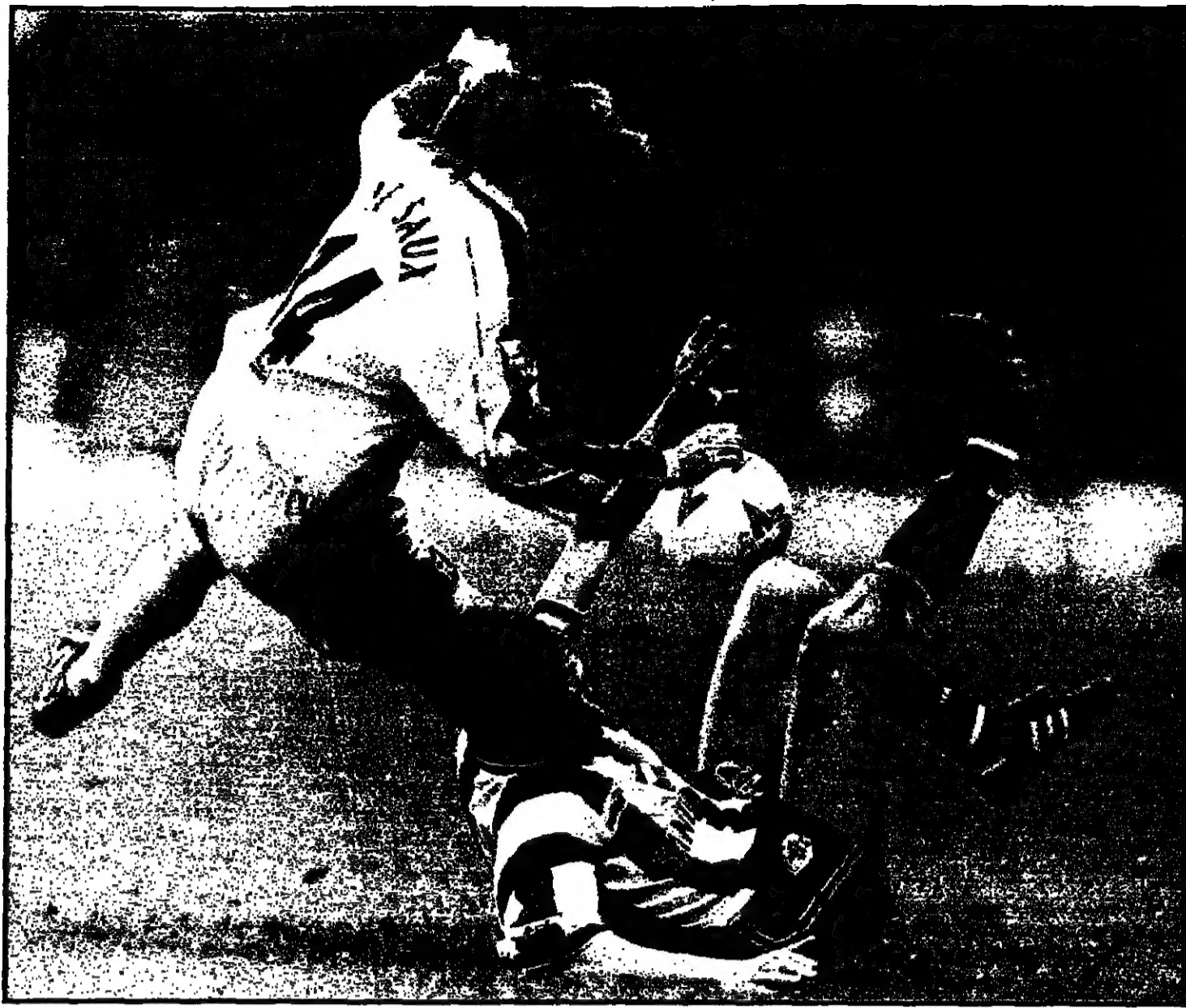
Second Division  
Maccabi Kfar Sava 1, Hapoel Lod 1; Hapoel Yotva 1, Maccabi Jaffa 1; Hapoel Ramat Gan 0, Zairim Holon 2; Hapoel Zorah 0, Maccabi Acre 0; Maccabi Yotva 0, Maccabi Netanya 1; Bnei Sakhnin 2, Hapoel Ashdod 2; Maccabi Kfar Sava 1, Hapoel Ramat Gan 0; Betar Tel Aviv 0, Hapoel Bat Yam 3.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hapoel Ashdod	13	9	3	1	30	8	30
Maccabi Jaffa	13	8	5	0	27	10	29
Zairim Holon	13	8	4	1	25	9	28
Maccabi Netanya	13	6	6	1	21	18	24
Hapoel Ramat Gan	13	6	4	3	15	9	22
Betar Tel Aviv	13	5	2	6	15	18	17
Hapoel Lod	13	4	5	4	12	14	15
Hapoel Tel Aviv	13	3	5	5	17	20	14
Hapoel Ramat Gan	13	3	5	5	13	19	14
Bnei Sakhnin	13	3	5	5	17	18	13
Maccabi Acre	13	2	6	5	10	19	12
Hapoel Bat Yam	13	2	5	6	10	21	11
Hapoel Zorah	13	1	5	7	9	20	8
Maccabi Yotva	13	0	3	10	4	28	3

## SCOREBOARD

RUGBY UNION: Host Bath booked their place in the final of the European Cup with a hard fought 20-14 win over French club Pau at the Recreation Ground yesterday. In the final on January 31 in Bordeaux, they will meet either Toulouse or Brive who meet in the second semifinal today.

CONFEDERATION CUP: Australian striker Harry Kewell blasted his country into the final against world champions Brazil today with a golden goal in sudden-death extra time against Uruguay on Friday. Brazil were 2-0 winners over the Czech Republic earlier in the day.



DOWN TO EARTH — Chelsea's Graeme Le Saux (l) is tackled by Sheffield Wednesday's Ian Nolan. Chelsea won 4-1. (Reuters)

teams immediately above.

Barnsley are last with 14 points from 19 games. Everton have 17 and Spurs 19. One point ahead of Tottenham are Southampton, Coventry and Bolton and Gillingham also have a chance of catching Palace and Sheffield Wednesday, both on 21 points.

Glasgow Rangers moved powerfully to the top of the Scottish Premier standings, replacing Hearts after a 5-2 win at the Edinburgh club.

Gordon Durie hit three goals for the 'Gers at Tynecastle with more strikes from Marco Negri, who took his total for the season to 31 with a penalty, and Jorg Albertz. Celtic moved into second place, one point behind, after a 5-0 crushing of Hibernian while Hearts slipped to third, two points off the lead.

Aston Villa 1, Southampton 1. Ian Taylor fired Villa ahead in the 64th minute from Mark Draper's through ball. But Saints' substitute Egil Olsenstad, who has started only five games this season because of a lingering ankle injury, snatched a point with an equalizer in the 72nd after collecting a long clearance from his goalkeeper, Paul Jones. 29,343.

Blackburn 3, West Ham 0. Stuart Ripley headed home Steve

Sherwood's cross in the 22nd minute for his first goal since April of 1994. Damien Duff scored the first of his team after punishing Andy Impey's weak back header in the 51st minute. The Hammers lost captain Steve Lomas seven minutes later for dissent and Duff punished them further with his second in the 72nd minute. 21,653.

Leeds 2, Bolton 0.

Portuguese star Bruno Ribeiro

scored twice in the 22nd and 45th minutes.

Leeds were 2-0 up at the 45th minute.

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